

Neale (J.) *Neale (J.)*
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A C C O U N T
OF THE
LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EXERCISES
OF
MARY NEALE,
FORMERLY
MARY PEISLEY.

PRINCIPALLY COMPILED FROM HER OWN
WRITINGS.

DUBLIN:

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THE following christian experiences falling into my hands, I thought well to collect and put them into some order for the perusal of others.

She led an exemplary life, being watchful over herself, and zealous for the prosperity of Truth ; her mind was so much to it's centre, and her attention so inward, that she often drew others by her awful sitting into silence in friends families ; and as her cup overflowed she ministered to them as one having authority ; so that it may be truly said, she was fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.

Ample accounts have been received of her service in both England and America, in which the Lord was pleased to bless her labour and sanctify it to many.

She mourned for the obvious declension of our society from its primitive simplicity in

manners and conduct; often declaring that ere it shone again in its ancient beauty, the rubbish must be removed, that there must be a division between the precious and the vile, those who served the Lord and those who served him not; but before this day come greater degrees of darkness would prevail amongst us as a people, and more of the night come upon us before the day of beauty and reformation would again revive in splendour. And therefore she was fervently engaged that the faithful every where might stand upon their watch, and discharge themselves as watchmen and watchwomen upon the walls of Zion, having their armour on and their lights burning, to be able to discover, as well as oppose, the approach of the enemy.

The latter part of her time she was attended with much bodily weakness and indisposition, which often rendered her unfit for travelling, these she called visitations of the mercy of God to her soul, in order to preserve her to Himself, and stain the beauty and glory of this world in her view, that her affections might be weaned from terrestrial objects, and fixed upon those things that are above, permanent and enduring to all eternity.

That the perusal of the following experiences may be blessed, and that the footsteps of this handmaid of the Lord may excite and encourage all to press into the path of self-denial, the sure way to sanctification, and the rest of the righteous in which she delighted is, reader, the fervent desire of

Thy well wishing friend

SAMUEL NEALE.

7 AP 59

MARY NEALE otherwise Peisley, daughter of Peter and Rachel Peisley was born in the year 1717 at Ballymore in the county of Kildare in Ireland, and educated in the society of the people called Quakers; but a disposition to keep company unrestrained by the cross of Christ, led her from truth's simplicity in manners and behaviour, whereof she thus expresses herself,

“ I count it an infinite mercy and high favour, that the omnipotent God suffered not
“ the thread of my life to be cut, during the
“ many years that I lived in disobedience to
“ his holy will, and tho’ often by the operation of his grace inwardly touch’d and convicted of my errors, and the vail so far rent
“ from off my understanding, as to let me see
“ that I stood on the brink of ruin, yet did I
“ as often suffer the enemy and adversary of
“ my soul again to darken my understanding,
“ and benumb my spiritual feeling; and the

“ tumultuous noises, pleasures and allurements
 “ of this world stifled the intelligence of the
 “ still small voice, which would have directed
 “ me, saying, this is the way walk in it. Our
 “ meeting also was favoured with a liv-
 “ ing and powerful ministry, which I often
 “ slighted ; thus have I, with my hard and im-
 “ penitent heart, stoned his prophets, and by
 “ my unbelief and uncircumcised spirit, perse-
 “ cuted them that were sent to declare and
 “ proclaim the glad tidings of the gospel ; to
 “ invite and call to those who were in capti-
 “ vity, held by the chains of sin, to come
 “ away to the glorious liberty of the Truth ;
 “ I have to remember, as an inexpressible
 “ favour and mercy to my soul, that in the
 “ height of all my vanity and stupidity, I was
 “ not suffered to run into the gross enormi-
 “ ties of the world, I was kept from those
 “ loud, crying, hardening, black crimes which,
 “ had I run into, might so highly provoke my
 “ creator, as to have caused him to say in his
 “ wrath,” “ Thou shalt not enter into my
 rest.”

“ A short time before my conversion I had
 “ a fall from my horse, by which I was ap-
 “ parently in danger of having my neck dis-
 “ jointed, and a sudden end put to my life ; as

“ soon as I arose on my feet and recovered
 “ my senses, the Lord by his grace and good
 “ Spirit shewed me clearly that I was not in a
 “ fit, condition to meet him the just and holy
 “ judge of heaven and earth, and caused me
 “ solidly to consider the dismal consequence
 “ of being hurried off the stage of mortality,
 “ in an unprepared state, the impression of
 “ which never left my mind ’till God, by his
 “ grace, had made me more fit for his king-
 “ dom, the glory of which be given to his
 “ everlasting name.”

About this time two friends in the service
 of truth appointed a meeting, within the com-
 pass of that in which she resided. Their aw-
 ful, reverent sitting before the Lord, waiting
 upon him for his presence and aid, struck her
 in an unusual manner, raising in her mind a
 fervent enquiry after the revelation of the Fa-
 ther, through his Son. She had often heard
 tell of the comforts of the holy Spirit, the in-
 struction of the light that comes by Jesus
 Christ, and the way of spiritual worship: but
 still remained a stranger to the true manner
 of seeking and breathing after it, in her own
 experience. She has expressed how deeply
 her mind was affected, by the silent and hum-
 ble waiting of the before mentioned friends,

and by the operation of the universal principle of grace shed in her heart, that she was aroused to enquire for herself; and as she pressed to wisdom's gate her seeking mind was satisfied.

During this dispensation of inward enquiry she was helped forward to diligence by the ministry of some of the Lord's messengers, who spoke comfortably to her state, and encouraged her in perseverance and well doing, speaking prophetically, that the Lord would raise up in that meeting some that should bear his name among the Gentiles, and be the messenger of peace and glad tidings to the people, if obedience and faithfulness to the heavenly manifestations were kept to

By an humble resignation to the divine will to form the vessel in what manner the heavenly potter pleased, the work went forward prosperously, and she appears to have been an instance of great fervency and devotedness to whatever the divine influence dictated, watchful to hear the voice, and obedient to fulfill the command, tho' it was in giving up that which might be as a right hand or a right eye.

Her entrance into the work of the ministry was about the beginning of the year 1744, near which time she had unexpected domestic trials which, brought her very low in mind, from a sense of the singularity of her situation, but her trust being in the Lord, she was eminently supported, and writes thus to a friend.

“ I doubt not but thou art touched in some
 “ degree with a sense of my deep and heavy
 “ afflictions which are of various kinds ; many
 “ are the probations which I have passed
 “ through and still am under, I can by no
 “ means set forth the wise, prudent and merciful
 “ manner, that my tender and heavenly
 “ Father has dealt with me ; by fortifying my
 “ mind beforehand, and likewise supporting
 “ and upholding me under my trials ; was it
 “ not in the infiniteness of his wisdom, and
 “ boundless mercy that he stained the beauty
 “ of this world in my eyes, wiped off the varnish
 “ and gilding, and let me see before they
 “ were snatched from me, that they were but
 “ momentary, fading enjoyments, and the
 “ greatest and best of them were but short
 “ lived blessings, and shadows that would vanish
 “ away ? neither did his kindness end
 “ there, for he likewise shewed me what was

" substance, a pearl of inestimable value ; at
 " the sight of which my soul was so transport-
 " ed that I cried out in an extacy of joy."
 " Cause me, Lord, to possess this treasure, and
 " in lieu of it divest me of whatever seems
 " good in thy sight ;" this was my covenant
 " with the King of Kings.—So great was
 " the goodness of my God, dispensed and pro-
 " portioned in wisdom, that he did not at that
 " time reveal himself to me in so full a man-
 " ner as he has since done ; at a time when I
 " most of all wanted it : in my deepest plung-
 " ings, he has caused my soul to taste of joys
 " and consolations which I was before, a stran-
 " ger to ; nor would I have presumed to ask
 " for the favours of patience and resignation
 " and fortitude of mind, which he has unde-
 " servedly bestowed on me, an unworthy
 " creature."

An opportunity presented for her to re-
 side in the family of a friend, within the
 compass of Mountmellick meeting, of whose
 daughter she had the care ; in this station she
 continued for some time, until she apprehend-
 ed herself thereby deprived, in some degree of
 a full liberty to exercise the gift received, and
 to live to him alone that had quickened her
 anew in Christ Jesus ; at which time she
 writes thus to a relation. " I am resolved, by

“ the blessed assistance of Ifrael’s God, not to
 “ bury that talent that he has given me in the
 “ earth, nor to quit the occupying of it for
 “ any outward occupation ; better would
 “ it be for me to wander as the pro-
 “ phets formerly did ; destitute, distressed
 “ and naked, than to sell an unfading inheri-
 “ tance, for any prospect of advantage here ;
 “ for I am sure to drudge for the sustenance
 “ of the body, as do the beasts, and to live for
 “ no nobler ends, than to eat, drink and sleep,
 “ such a life is not worth living for ; not that
 “ I am against moderate honest industry, for
 “ I am convinced it is good for both body
 “ and mind.”

About this time a concern attended her
 mind, to visit friends of the three provinces,
 which she pretty generally performed in com-
 pany with Elizabeth Tomey of Limerick, in
 sweet unity and concord. They met with
 low times and seasons, deep baptism of spirit,
 and travailed for and with the seed, and
 at times were set at liberty, in the authority
 and power of truth, to minister unto the va-
 rious classes of the people. Of the quarterly
 meeting of Ulster province held in Lurgan,
 she gives the following account. “ We at-
 “ tended the meeting of ministers and elders,

“ where we had close work, but the power of
 “ the Lord upheld us above the fear of man.
 “ Next day had some encouragement to the
 “ faithful and well-minded, but could not
 “ that day reach the libertine spirit, but waited
 “ for renewed strength from the Lord, to en-
 “ gage against the Goliaths, who defy the ar-
 “ mies of the living God. The day after be-
 “ ing first day, we sat in a low humble de-
 “ pending state, until the Lord gave the spirit
 “ of supplication, after which his power was
 “ set over all, and testimony borne to his
 “ name, and transgressors were shewed their
 “ errors in the demonstration of the Lord’s
 “ spirit and power.”

After this journey she went to reside with a
 relation in Borris, from whence she writes as
 follows. “ I am at times concerned for the
 “ whole bulk of mankind, but in a more par-
 “ ticular manner for my kindred according to
 “ the flesh, and especially those who were my
 “ companions in my former vanities, as well
 “ knowing what the life I then led would have
 “ ended in, had not my God, in his infinite
 “ mercy, opened my eyes, and stopped my race
 “ to ruin; and tho’ I was in the broad way
 “ that leads to destruction, yet was I innocent
 “ of, and free from the gross enormities that are

“ in the world, and because thereof the enemy
 “ persuaded me, that I was safe enough,
 “ but alas ! I found I was living as without
 “ God in the world, in forgetfulness of
 “ him ; a stranger and unregenerate ; in
 “ short that I was an enemy to God, and un-
 “ der his just wrath and displeasure ; and now
 “ I may say that I am jealous with a godly
 “ jealousy, that thou art yet in that unrege-
 “ nerate state and condition : thou wilt say
 “ perhaps, thou art not called to the same
 “ work that I have been called to, *viz.* the
 “ work of the ministry, and have no need to
 “ know what I have experienced. If this
 “ should be suggested to thy mind, it is of the
 “ enemy, for if thou hast not been called to
 “ to bear a public testimony, thou hast I doubt
 “ not been called to holiness, without which
 “ we are told, “ no man shall see the Lord.”
 “ Thou hast the same pure holy God to fear
 “ the same subtil unwearied enemy to war
 “ against, a soul as precious, and that must
 “ abide as long as mine, either in happiness or
 “ misery, therefore it behoves thee to be as
 “ strict in thy life, and as holy in thy conver-
 “ sation as any other, that so thou mayest be
 “ a terror to evil doers, and a praise and en-
 “ courager of them that do well. For I am
 “ sure if we be lovers and true followers of

" Jesus, we cannot take pleasure in hearing
 " his great name profaned, and taken in vain :
 " and their company that are guilty of such
 " things we should carefully avoid, as we
 " would an infectious person.

" It is I think, impossible to be frequent in
 " ill company, without being somewhat lea-
 " vened into the same spirit, except we keep
 " a strict watch, and have our minds armed,
 " with the pure armour of light and righte-
 " ousness. This alone can make us proof
 " against the fiery darts of the wicked, which
 " insensibly pierce and wound the unwary
 " soul. It is our interest and duty, all in
 " our power, carefully to avoid temptations,
 " for those that we must inevitably meet with
 " are enough for us, poor weak creatures, to
 " grapple with. Take care of poisoning thy
 " mind with vain and idle books, for I
 " know them, by experience, to be very per-
 " nicious; let thy leisure hours be spent in
 " retirement, and reading the holy scriptures,
 " with other good books. Remember thou
 " art the head of a family, and it behoves
 " thee to have a superadded care, for if thy
 " example be not good, thou wilt have much
 " to answer for. Watch over thy sisters in
 " love, and be not an instrument of bringing

" evil company in their way: there is an evil
 " that thou art guilty of that is visible to more
 " than me, and that is thy flighting and neg-
 " lecting week-day meetings: If thou had ap-
 " pointed a day to meet any of those styled
 " noblemen of the earth, and thou flighted
 " and neglected the appointments for weeks,
 " yea months together, would it not be a great
 " affront and indignity to them? yea, and I
 " am persuaded thou would not do it, for fear
 " of offending them; and is the King of
 " Kings and Lord of heaven and earth, less
 " noble, less discerning, when he is flighted
 " and neglected? I observe thou hast time
 " and leisure to ride many miles to sports and
 " diversions, such as hunting, horse-racing and
 " other fights; does not this shew thou art a
 " lover of pleasure more than a lover of God,
 " such as the apostle declares are " dead while
 " they live." Dear cousin, bear with my deal-
 " ing thus plainly; I have no view in it, but
 " the good of thy immortal soul, and the ease
 " of my own mind, and I sincerely wish that
 " thou and I may be prepared for our great
 " and final change.

" We have daily instances of young and
 " strong being snatch'd away in their bloom
 " as with their bones full of marrow: and

" why may it not be our case? we cannot
 " promise ourselves one hour to come, the
 " present time is only ours, and Oh! its
 " a dismal consequence to launch into eterni-
 " ty unprepared, where the worm never dieth,
 " nor is the fire quenched; If we are so fond
 " of a few transitory pleasures in this world,
 " how can we bear to be shut out from eternal
 " felicity, and doomed to everlasting misery?
 " I beseech thee solidly to consider these
 " things, and I pray the God of love and mer-
 " cy to give thee a wise and understanding
 " heart."

About the 8th month 1747, she returned to
 Mountmelick, to the house of her friend
 where she before resided. Her continuance
 here was for a few months, during which time
 she was attacked with a disorder in her stomach,
 which occasioned great weakness, and brought
 her very low. In a letter to a friend she thus
 expresses herself. " I gratefully acknowledge
 " thy unmerited kindness in the concern thou
 " shews for my health; I am sensible it is our
 " indispensable duty to endeavour to preserve
 " life and health, by all lawful means that
 " providence is pleased to afford; were it not
 " so, I often think, that mine is not worth
 " caring for, instead of being useful to any, I

“ fear I shall be a burden to the creation,
 “ and miss the end of my being; surely none
 “ whom he has sent into life, and visited with
 “ his matchless love and kindness, is more
 “ weak and unworthy than I am; and were
 “ it so that he, by his divine power, was
 “ pleased to make use of me, in any good
 “ work, it was all his own, of and from him
 “ alone, I could have no part in it, but as
 “ passive clay in his hand; and blessed be his
 “ name, he is not limited, nor his power con-
 “ fined to any instruments; he that found me
 “ in a polluted state, can raise up and sancti-
 “ fy many more for his work and service, and
 “ that he may in these dark and perilous days,
 “ is the travail of my afflicted soul.” During
 this dispensation she wrote as follows to her
 brother, who had frequently occasioned much
 anxiety and disquietude to her mind; “ Dear
 “ brother, for so thou art by nature to me,
 “ would to God thou wert so in a two fold
 “ sense, *viz.* by adoption or new creation in
 “ Christ, which far exceeds all the ties of af-
 “ finity or consanguinity, and will last beyond
 “ the grave, never, never to be dissolved; may
 “ thou happily experience this, before time to
 “ thee here be no more, for which end provi-
 “ dence has in matchless love and condescen-
 “ sion, wonderfully prolonged thy days, amidst

“ imminent dangers and difficulties: may this
 “ be deeply pondered and wisely laid to heart
 “ by thee; otherwise it will add weight in the
 “ balance against thee, in the great and notable
 “ day of account, that hastens on us both.
 “ Thou knows, dear brother, it has often been
 “ my concern thus to remind, and call thee to
 “ the important business of life, and thy neg-
 “ lect of it has almost discouraged me from
 “ further attempts; this may perhaps be the
 “ last; and I do with all the ardency my soul
 “ is capable of, joined with natural affec-
 “ tion, earnestly desire it may have the wished
 “ for effect. I am in a very poor state of health
 “ and little human probability of my being
 “ restored. My disorder is attended with acute
 “ pain, but blessed for ever be the name of
 “ my God, patience equivalent thereto has
 “ been administered. How it may be with
 “ me as to life or death I cannot say; but
 “ this is my greatest consolation, and such a
 “ one as is beyond the power of my tongue
 “ to express, or pen to set forth, *viz.* that I
 “ have not spent my health and strength in
 “ the gratification of my passions, or sensual
 “ appetites, but in some degree in the pursuit
 “ of that which now stands by me, and will
 “ go with me beyond time, a good conscience
 “ towards God, whose love I feel to flow in

“ my soul, in such a manner as to admit of
 “ no doubt, that he is my friend, or in other
 “ words, that he is in me, and I in him, and
 “ will be so to all eternity, if I forsake him
 “ not : Believe me, brother, when I tell thee,
 “ at a time when dissimulation must vanish,
 “ at a season when we are best capable of
 “ knowing ourselves, and judging of all
 “ things in the clearest manner, when the
 “ mists of the world are removed from before
 “ our eyes, and eternity presented to our
 “ view ; at such a time as this I may tell thee,
 “ I am not afraid to die ; nor is the sound of
 “ mortality and eternity frightful to my ears ;
 “ no, I cannot look on death as a king of
 “ terrors, but as a welcome messenger, who
 “ comes with a happy release, from all
 “ my trials, temptations and afflictions, to
 “ summon me to an eternity of unmixed fe-
 “ licity, to that which I have most loved and
 “ delighted in for years past, though favoured
 “ with but a glimpse and foretaste of it, whilst
 “ my soul is loaded with it's companion, flesh,
 “ but what will it be when the face of the
 “ Divinity will be for ever unveiled, faith
 “ turned into vision, and the full fruition
 “ come to ? These are words of truth and so-
 “ bernefs. I know there is a kingdom of
 “ heaven, because I already feel it within

" me, Christ in me, as said the apostle, the
 " hope of glory ; and because he lives, I live
 " also ; not merely an animal life which must
 " perish ; but a life hid with Christ in God.
 " Without a new creation in Christ it is im-
 " possible for us to enjoy God, or in the
 " words of his son Christ Jesus, see or enter
 " the kingdom of heaven ; had we not bodies
 " taken from the earth it would be impossible
 " we should enjoy or live by the same ; and if
 " we have not a new birth begotten or form-
 " ed of God in us, it is likewise impossible
 " we should live to or in him ; more I might
 " say to illustrate this important truth to
 " thy understanding, if bodily strength would
 " admit, but unless thou centre's down in
 " true sincerity and humility, to the pure
 " light of Christ in thyself, by which alone
 " what is to be known of God is manifest in
 " man, these things, with all the other truths
 " of the gospel, will for ever remain a mys-
 " tery to thee, as it has done to ages and ge-
 " nerations, and the wise and prudent of this
 " world ; but is revealed unto the babes that
 " are begotten and born of the incorruptible
 " seed and word of God : I conclude thy
 " affectionate sister in the hope, and Oh ! that
 " I could say fellowship of the gospel."

M. P.

About this time she felt a weighty concern to visit the churches in England ; and having obtained the concurrence of her friends, accompanied by Elizabeth Hutchinson, she set forward from Mountmelick in the 7th month 1748. They attended the province meeting held at Carlow, and went from thence to Baltibois, where they had a blessed helping meeting. The testimony went forth to those of other societies. They had a meeting at Timahoe, and went thence to Dublin, where they had refreshing and comfortable meetings, the Lords eternal truth being over all ; “ We “ were,” she expresses in a journal kept of this journey, “ comforted one in another, “ and enabled renewedly to bless the name of “ the Lord. The 27th of 7mo. we took ship for “ Whitehaven, and landed there the 28th; the “ 30th went to Pardshaw, where was held the “ quarterly meeting for Cumberland, the “ public meeting proved a glorious one, and “ was a time of solid worship : the testimony of “ truth was exalted over all, and the everlast- “ ing gospel freely preached. After this meet- “ ing I had great consolation of soul, and we “ spent the evening in company with several “ friends, in agreeable edifying conversation, “ and in much freedom and openness of

“ spirit. Next day, being the first of the
 “ week, we went to their general meeting at
 “ Cockermouth, the 3rd to Whitehaven, low
 “ and depressed in spirit. Next day had a
 “ meeting there, in which I cleared myself;
 “ was led therein to set forth the call and qua-
 “ lification of a true gospel minister; left it in
 “ peace of mind, but much spent in body
 “ with the service thereof. The 5th had a
 “ meeting in Broughton, where we were
 “ led to speak closely to some who had been
 “ visited in their young years, and were now
 “ grown lukewarm and indifferent. The 6th
 “ had a good meeting at Isell, tho’ small.
 “ Next day were at Keswick, the service chiefly
 “ to those not of our society; had some close
 “ things to deliver to those that were. The
 “ 9th at Allonby, whither came many friends
 “ from other meetings, to whom truth was
 “ freely declared. From hence to Holme,
 “ where we had a silent meeting, and under-
 “ stood they seldom sat free from disturbers.
 “ The 10th had a low season at Kirkbride, the
 “ 11th at Bolton, the 12th at Wigton, which
 “ was large, but low as to the dominion of
 “ life; next day had a meeting at Moorehouse,
 “ things close and hard to deliver; at Carlisle,
 “ we had a good open meeting, my mind be-
 “ ing much enlarged amongst them, yet felt

“ a concern rest with me to have another
 “ meeting in that city, which friends readily
 “ agreed to. The 15th had a meeting at
 “ Kirklington, which was large and satisfacto-
 “ ry; and another at Carlisle in the evening,
 “ in consequence of the concern already men-
 “ tioned, there came a great number of the
 “ town’s folk ; when I got there I found myself
 “ so weak in body and poor in spirit, and the
 “ people so unsettled in their minds, that I
 “ almost feared I should not be able to answer
 “ the service of the meeting, I earnestly desired
 “ that the cause and testimony of truth might
 “ not suffer, let me suffer what I might ; I had
 “ not long sat, ’till I found a flow of doctrine
 “ open in my mind ; I stood up in the fear of
 “ the Lord, and the people soon became
 “ quiet and solid ; I was strengthened beyond
 “ my expectation, and the meeting ended
 “ well ; and blessed be the name of the Lord,
 “ I had great peace and satisfaction after it
 “ was over. Went hence to Scotby, and had
 “ a meeting ; so to Ann Greenup’s, and was
 “ at the monthly meeting in that quarter,
 “ where my mind was under much suffering ;
 “ but as I waited, the power of truth arose,
 “ and I found ease and liberty of mind ;
 “ was led in a very close manner ; the seed

“ had dominion, and the authority of truth was
 “ over all. Went next day to Mosedale, and had
 “ a travailing season in that meeting ; thence
 “ to Terrill, and had a poor meeting there,
 “ thence to Isaac Thompson’s, being very
 “ poor in spirit and low in mind. Next day,
 “ we rested, spending the day much in retire-
 “ ment ; which proved very helpful to me ;
 “ and as I waited on the Lord to have my
 “ spiritual strength renewed, felt a concern to
 “ have a meeting with the inhabitants, and
 “ one in the afternoon at Penrith on first
 “ day. After I had well considered and
 “ weigh’d these things, the friend with
 “ whom we lodged said, they were a peo-
 “ ple of no religion ; which did not dis-
 “ courage me, for it immediately arose in my
 “ mind, that, they had the more need of
 “ help, and that, perhaps, they might more
 “ readily receive the truth, than those who
 “ were more biggotted to ceremonies. We
 “ went to Penrith next morning, the friends
 “ asked me if I would have an afternoon
 “ meeting, I replied that, I could better tell at
 “ the conclusion of the first meeting. We
 “ went to meeting, and it proved a good one,
 “ for truth had dominion and was over all ;
 “ then I felt strength to have an afternoon
 “ meeting appointed, which was large and to

“ great satisfaction, some of the town’s folks
 “ being at the forenoon meeting, and the town
 “ pretty large, the report spread and the people
 “ came ’till the house could hold no more,
 “ with convenience ; after this I spoke of
 “ the meeting which my mind was drawn to
 “ propose at Amenbridge, where a friend said
 “ there had been none before ; friends seemed
 “ willing, but knew of no place to hold it in,
 “ except the house where we lodged, which
 “ was large enough, and would have done well
 “ for the purpose, but the friend said he could
 “ not admit of it, for fear of his landlord,
 “ who was a priest ; I said, I could not force
 “ their hearts nor houses, but hoped, as I had
 “ laid it before them, I should be made easy ;
 “ and if not, I did not doubt that if I went to
 “ some of these who professed not with us, I
 “ should be accommodated ; he said, there
 “ was a town a mile off, that he thought
 “ would answer better for a meeting, and
 “ that their town’s people would go thither ;
 “ I told him I dare not go in my own will to
 “ have meetings where I pleased, but where
 “ truth led me ; he replied, if the folks of Pen-
 “ rith heard of the meeting, the streets, much
 “ less the house would not hold them ; then,
 “ said I, we may go to the fields. This, I be-
 “ lieve stirred him up—he went away, and in

" short time returned, and told me, not to
 " be uneasy, I should have a meeting; and
 " accordingly it was appointed to begin
 " at 6 o'clock next evening at another
 " friend's house in the town, which proved
 " quite too small. They made all the room
 " they could in two apartments and a hall,
 " but many were at the windows who could
 " not get in. We had a meeting at Strick-
 " land in the forenoon, which had before
 " been appointed. When I came to see and
 " sit amongst the people at Amenbridge, they
 " seemed so ignorant of our manner of wor-
 " ship and principles, that my faith almost
 " failed of doing any service, or administering
 " help to them. After some time of waiting
 " for divine aid, I stood up, and they appear-
 " ed to me, as still and attentive while I was
 " speaking, as ever I observed any assembly.
 " I laboured amongst them 'till my natural
 " strength failed, and after meeting was over,
 " I had great inward peace and comfort.
 " Next day we waited for their monthly
 " meeting at Aldstone, and paid a visit to a
 " friends family, where we had a sweet con-
 " solatory opportunity; and same evening
 " went towards Northumberland. The 25th
 " we continued our journey, a very difficult
 " and dangerous road; much of it moun-

" tainous, and tho' reckoned but 14 miles, it
 " took from 9 in the morning 'till 6 in the
 " evening, save that we stopped a little to re-
 " fresh ourselves, my mind was preserved
 " tranquil and easy. Next day we had a
 " hard laborious meeting but I was merciful-
 " ly helped through to the ease of my own
 " mind. The following day went to Corn-
 " wood, where had a meeting. The 27th
 " rode to Allendale, and the way being rough
 " and mountainous, it was dangerous. My
 " companion was thrown from her horse, and
 " I seemed in imminent danger, the way be-
 " ing narrow, and a considerable precipice just
 " by where my horse stood, which being in-
 " terrupted by my companion's falling, was
 " very uneasy; but at length, through the
 " merciful interposition of Providence, she
 " was taken up, very little hurt; and they
 " got me safe off my horse. We arrived wearied
 " with fright and fatigue. In a short time
 " friends got together, and we had a comfort-
 " able good meeting, which amply made
 " amends for all we went through. The 28th
 " had a large meeting. My Spirit was under
 " deep suffering before I went to it, and for
 " some time after, but, through divine aid,
 " I fully cleared myself. When I came to my
 " lodging, I was under a baptism of spirit, and
 " could not tell the cause. I examined my-

" self, and brought things to the closest scru-
 " tiny, to know whether I had done or omitt-
 " ed any thing contrary to truth, but could
 " find no condemnation. At dinner, I felt
 " the spirit of supplication, which I gave way
 " to, and found my mind free and easy.
 " Next morning the 29th set out for Benfield ;
 " it was such hard weather, friends would have
 " had us stay, but as the meeting was appoint-
 " ed, I could not be easy so to do. It blew such
 " a violent storm, that it was with difficulty
 " we could sit our horses, or they keep their
 " feet, being several times blown out of the
 " path. It was 14 miles over a black moor,
 " where there was no shelter ; our guides miss-
 " ed the way twice, once on the open moor.
 " My companion, who was a young traveller,
 " was discouraged, stopped several times, wept
 " and said, she thought she could hold it no
 " longer. I encouraged her to hold out to the
 " end, and told her, there was no abiding there.
 " By the Lord's mercy, my mind was kept
 " quiet and still, and about 7 at night we got
 " safe to our quarters, where we had an hearty
 " welcome. The meeting was appointed to be-
 " gin at 9 next morning ; it was small, but
 " greatly to my satisfaction. I was led in par-
 " ticular to some person who was under a
 " temptation to join in marriage with one of
 " another society, and likewise to declare that

“ I had no outward information. After meet-
 “ ing, an elderly friend told me, that I had
 “ hit the mark to an hair’s breadth, for there
 “ was a young man, who he knew was under
 “ such a temptation, and had been advised
 “ against it. Went that night to Newcastle,
 “ upon Tyne, 11 miles, staid there several
 “ days, had a good meeting on 5th day, being
 “ 3rd of 9th mo. tho’ some states hard to
 “ speak to, there being some deistical prin-
 “ ciples I believe cherished amongst them:
 “ and so close was the testimony, that they
 “ could scarcely bear to sit. After this meet-
 “ ing, a friend told me I had spoken by reve-
 “ lation, but was so prudent as to say no
 “ more, as we were to stay until after the next
 “ first day, to equip ourselves for continuing
 “ our journey. In the interim visited the aged,
 “ who were confined with weakness. First day
 “ truth eminently helped with its ancient
 “ beauty and brightness, dispelling all mists
 “ and clouds; a glorious time it was to the
 “ comfort and edification of the church; the
 “ afternoon meeting was very full of friends,
 “ and those of other societies. It proved to
 “ me a sweet consolating time; the spring of
 “ life being opened for my own help and fur-
 “ therance in best things; but had not any
 “ thing to communicate to the people. The
 “ 6th went to Shields, and had a small meet-

"ing. In the evening went to Sunderland.
 "The 7th had a meeting in the forenoon, to
 "an increase of comfort, and praise to him
 "that exalts his own testimony in the hearts
 "of his children, and gives tongue and utter-
 "ance to magnify his name and power; Had
 "a refreshing season in the family where we
 "lodged, the Lord breaking to us the bread
 "of life for the nourishment of our souls;
 "and after had an evening meeting appointed
 "which was large and to good satisfaction.
 "The 8th had a meeting at Shotton. The
 "9th at Durham, the 10th at Auckland,
 "which was a good meeting, and I felt a con-
 "cern to have another there in the afternoon,
 "of which I acquainted the friend with whom
 "we lodged; he pleaded many excuses, I told
 "him, I apprehended it was not the busi-
 "ness of a minister, to proceed contrary to
 "the minds of friends, especially one so
 "young as I; and that, as I had told my con-
 "cern I hoped I should be easy; and if not,
 "I could but come back again. My mind
 "was soon relieved of its burden; as the
 "Lord my God knew my willingness to
 "obey him, he required no impossibility of
 "me. Next day went 6 miles to Raby; had
 "a large meeting there; several friends com-
 "ing from divers places to meet us, but that
 "spirit was amongst them, that obstructs the

“ spring of the ministry, and made it hard to
 “ speak ; but by divine assistance, I was ena-
 “ bled to clear myself, and came away with
 “ peace of mind. My companion was so ill
 “ that she was detained from meeting two
 “ days. The 13th, went to Lartington
 “ to meeting, and returned in the afternoon.
 “ Next day to Darlington, and had a meet-
 “ ing there the 15th ; it ended well tho’ hard
 “ in the beginning. The day following went
 “ to Stockton, had a full meeting and came
 “ away in peace. The 17th had a meeting
 “ at Yarme, it was small, several young peo-
 “ ple came from Stockton, and it proved on
 “ the whole to good satisfaction. Next day,
 “ was at a small meeting, where sat a pretty
 “ while in silence, and a state of mourning
 “ for the cause of truth. I eased my mind
 “ amongst them, and came away in peace.
 “ The 21st had a meeting at Gisborough, and
 “ 23rd at Moorsome. The 24th was at the
 “ monthly meeting held at Castletown, where
 “ were many plain, honest, sincere friends,
 “ and we were comforted in the Lord and
 “ one in another. Next evening at Hinder-
 “ well and Roxby. The 26th went to Whit-
 “ by and that evening had meeting with seve-
 “ ral friends, who came to see us. Next day,
 “ attended a large meeting ; my spirit was un-
 “ der great suffering, and continued so until

“ the afternoon, tho’ I had delivered in the
 “ forenoon meeting, what appeared to be
 “ given me, but in the afternoon the power
 “ of truth was in dominion, and every oppo-
 “ site spirit made subject ; things were spoken
 “ to closely and clearly, and Babylon threshed
 “ as with a sharp instrument, that she could
 “ not get from under. Then was my spirit
 “ made easy, and my soul rejoiced in the
 “ Lord, who is worthy ; and prayer, praises
 “ and thanksgiving, ascended unto him that
 “ lives forever. Had the company of several
 “ friends this evening, which was spent in, I
 “ hope, profitable conversation. The 28th
 “ had a meeting at Stentondale. The friends
 “ in this quarter are but few, I think eight
 “ families composed the meeting ; it was with
 “ these few a memorable season of humbling
 “ gladness. Came to Scarborough in the
 “ evening, and next day, had a large and sa-
 “ tisfactory meeting. In a friends family
 “ where we spent the evening, had a reach-
 “ ing affecting season, manifested by much
 “ brokenness of spirit. The 1st of 10th month
 “ had a meeting at Pickerington, and the 2nd
 “ at Kirkbymoorside, which was large, at-
 “ tended with the going forth, of some sea-
 “ soning instruction. Went after meeting to
 “ John Richardson’s, near 84 years of age ;
 “ a man very remarkable for sweetness and

“liveliness of spirit; full of love, clear in
 “his understanding, and his memory strong.
 “He sat up till late with us, relating the
 “wonderful dealings of the Lord with him,
 “which was truly edifying, and such as I had
 “never heard before. He was quite open
 “with us, which I looked upon as a favour
 “from the Lord; I wept much at parting
 “with him, and when we took leave, he de-
 “fired the Lord might bless us. Next day
 “went to Malton. The day following, had
 “a large meeting, and passed through a la-
 “borious exercise amongst them. The even-
 “ing was spent to spiritual profit, in waiting
 “for a renewal of strength, and imparting
 “some of the bread handed to my soul to
 “others, whom I visited in their families;
 “left this place with peace of mind. The
 “6th was at a monthly meeting at Bridling-
 “ton. it was a season of suffering, my mind
 “very low after it; which caused an exami-
 “nation; but finding nothing to accuse my-
 “self of, was made easy. The 7th we were
 “at Hornsea meeting; the Lord’s eternal
 “power broke in upon us, to the comfort and
 “refreshment of our souls, and it was a time
 “of solemn worship. Next day we were at
 “a meeting at Oustwick, to our great com-
 “fort, and solid refreshment. The 9th at
 “Eastend. The 10th had an evening meet-

ing at Hull, to profit and edification, through
 the aboundings of that life which enlight-
 ens and sanctifies. The 11th went to Be-
 verly, a town where no friend lives, having
 felt a particular draft to have a meeting
 there; several friends from Hull attended,
 and the people flocked in until the house
 was near filled; I stood up and began to
 speak; but people rushed in so, that I was
 under the necessity of stopping, until they
 were settled; I then proceeded, and a glo-
 rious meeting it was, the divine power and
 authority of truth commanding silence
 throughout the multitude. Next day we
 went to visit a few at Skitby that were late-
 ly convinced, with whom we had a good
 meeting, and some open, profitable conver-
 sation. The 13th we went to Northcave,
 friends from several parts adjacent came
 thither: which made the meeting large, but
 not open and lively; we had hard labour,
 yet ended pretty well. The 14th had a
 meeting at Howdon, there were but few
 friends, and some of the town's people,
 who being in the Ishmalitish, mocking spi-
 rit, the true seed did not reign amongst
 them. The 15th were at Ratcliff. The 16th
 at Thorn. The 17th at Braithwaite, and
 the 18th again at Thorn. These meetings
 were generally small, and low as to the life

" of religion, which caused laborious work to
 " get down to the seed, so as to minister to
 " the states of the people. The 20th had a
 " meeting at Beltoft, which proved satisfacto-
 " ry; some who were not of our society at-
 " tended, that were very solid and attentive;
 " some were tendered, and several came in
 " the evening, with a desire of having a
 " meeting with us; but feeling no concern
 " for it, I could not encourage it. 22nd visit-
 " ed the meeting of Blyth, in Nottingham-
 " shire, which began at two o'Clock, I was
 " led very closely in it, had to remind them
 " of the practice of our elders; and told
 " them, if they would search from whence
 " that custom of deferring meetings until af-
 " ternoon, had it's origin, they would find it
 " was not in the truth. It ended well, in the
 " sweet consoling love of the Lord my God;
 " the friend we lodged with, not being at
 " meeting, but engaged in his shop, I had
 " some close discourse with him, concerning
 " his duty to God; at first he seemed to put
 " it off, but was brought to acquiesce with
 " what I said. Next day had a small, but
 " good meeting at Wamsworth; had a loose,
 " libertine spirit to speak to; which the au-
 " thority of truth helped me through with,
 " to the enlargement of peace in my own
 " bosom, and the exaltation of that power,

“ which, when it rules, causes the righteous to
 “ rejoice. The 25th being first day, was at
 “ Pontefract meeting, which seemed very
 “ weak and dwarfish, as to the life of religion;
 “ their undue liberty in externals, manifesting
 “ that their dwellings were not with the hum-
 “ ble seed, that crucifies to the world, and
 “ tarnishes it's beauty. Had little to commu-
 “ nicate, yet felt a revival of light and
 “ strength to my own state. I had a concern
 “ to have a meeting with those not of our so-
 “ ciety, a great number attended, many of
 “ whom were light and vain, but while I was
 “ exercised in speaking, they were mostly
 “ quiet and attentive, and I hope the oppor-
 “ tunity was to edification. The 26th had a
 “ meeting at Selby, which was but small.
 “ That evening went to York, and attended
 “ the quarterly meeting, which began at 5
 “ o'Clock, it was a season of travail and ex-
 “ ercise to a living remnant. Next morning
 “ at 9, the meeting of ministers and elders
 “ began, when the baptizing power of the
 “ Lord, was witnessed by the faithful, and
 “ through the succeeding meetings, help was
 “ graciously afforded, and the church was edi-
 “ fied.”

Her written memoirs contained particular
 accounts of the meetings visited throughout

England, which were omitted for brevity sake, (having given the above specimen of her travels and baptisms), except one particular she mentions on her visit to Yorkshire.

The following letter was written to a friend from Bradford, in Yorkshire, 2nd of 11th month 1748.

“ A few days ago thy acceptable letter reached me at the city of York, which I read with a mixture of satisfaction, and sorrow; satisfaction to find, that thou still retains thy love to the eternal excellency; and sorrow, that the powers of darkness should still so far prevail, as to cause such struggles of soul, and sore conflicts of spirit, as thou speaks of: but I have not the least doubt of thy deliverance, and firmly believe thy God will magnify and exalt his own divine power in thy soul; and make bare his holy arm for thy salvation, by revealing it in thee, an un-failing preserver in every needful time. This I write not altogether from myself, nor the impulse of friendship and gratitude, it is from a degree of that assurance and confidence, which truth has at this juncture communicated. It is reasonable to think by thy complaint, the time of thy release is at hand; it was so with Israel when they

“ were to be brought out of that dark land ;
 “ their task-masters were harder, and their
 “ burdens made heavier ; for, I believe there
 “ has no temptation befallen thee, but what
 “ has been witnessed by thy brethren who
 “ have trodden the same steps, even through
 “ the region and shadow of death ; by the
 “ gates of hell, yea, out of the belly of hell
 “ have some called as Jonah did, and He
 “ heard them. His righteous ear is not grown
 “ heavy that he cannot hear, but for the
 “ sighing of the poor, and groaning of the
 “ needy soul, he will yet arise ; and then it
 “ is that all our enemies are scattered ; one
 “ enabled to chase a thousand, and two to
 “ put ten thousand to flight. Tho’ it must be
 “ confessed, it is a day of darkness, famine and
 “ distress, yea, thick darkness, that may be
 “ felt ; yet blessed be the name of our God,
 “ he is as a Goshen to his children, giving
 “ them light in their habitations ; and setting
 “ a mark upon them, that sigh and mourn for
 “ the abominations of the people. Thou
 “ seems willing to give me an idea of thy spi-
 “ ritual state and condition, by an outward
 “ representation ; but I think I may say, I
 “ have both seen and felt it, by sinking down
 “ below all that is of the creature, to the
 “ pure humble seed of life ; where the visions
 “ of light are seen, and the voice of the great

" oracle heard, distinct from any other.
 " Here have I found thee present, in him that
 " is omnipresent, and tenderly sympathized
 " with thy soul, according to my small mea-
 " sure. In this do I desire to have our friend-
 " ship renewed, and fellowship kept stedfast,
 " which is with the Father, and the Son.

" I take kind thy seasonable warning to
 " watchfulness, which I surely stand in need
 " of, in this time, that drowsiness and spirit-
 " ual lethargy have generally infected man-
 " kind. Thou wilt, perhaps, like to hear an
 " account of my spiritual progress, and tra-
 " vel Zion-wards, and of the states of the
 " churches here, so far as my sight can reach,
 " and I may say, it has been a real grief and
 " affliction to my mind, to see the desolation,
 " darkness and insensibility that generally
 " prevail ; having been made to go mourning
 " on my way, with this language in my soul,
 " Lord, to whom hast thou sent me ? where
 " shall I find thy flock and family upon earth ?
 " for I see very few who like even to hear or
 " speak of thee, and surely if thy love had
 " the pre-eminence, out of the abundance of
 " the heart, the mouth would speak, or, at
 " least, the soul love to wait in silence for
 " thy divine appearance." But alas ! many
 " seem to have nothing further to enquire

" about, than whence we came? whither
 " we go? our names, or if we be married? to
 " which I often answer, I hope I have been
 " honourably espoused to one husband, but
 " they are quite ignorant of him whom my
 " soul loveth, and of my meaning. Yet al-
 " tho' it be thus, there is a living remnant
 " in this part of the world, but under great
 " suffering and oppression; with which I have
 " been made deeply to sympathize, and have
 " greatly admired the Lord's goodness and
 " condescending love; his forbearance and
 " suffering to a disobedient and gainsaying
 " people, not willing that they should perish.

" As to my own particular, I find the
 " truth of that saying, that " they who
 " preach the gospel, live by it," in a spiritual
 " sense; and tho' the Lord has been pleased
 " at times to cause his candle to shine upon
 " my head, and clothe me with his royal
 " robes, yet I often witness, a being entirely
 " emptied, stripped and destitute almost of
 " daily bread, and have had as Mordecai, to
 " go down and sit at the king's gate, all
 " which I see is for my good; for when a cis-
 " tern is let dry, the earthy sediment is dis-
 " covered, a fit time for cleaning it, that so
 " the water may flow from it with greater pu-
 " rity: therefore I strive to learn that great

“ lesson, of being content in all states, and
 “ may say to the praise and honour of my
 “ kind master, that he hath (since I have
 “ given up the same to serve him) caused his
 “ peace to flow in my soul as a river: whose
 “ current is not long to be controlled by all
 “ the impediments which can be laid in its
 “ way. Blessed for ever be his holy name,
 “ he has afforded me strength to discharge
 “ myself faithfully wherever my lot has been
 “ cast, both publickly and privately; so that
 “ I have no condemnation on that account,
 “ nor have I repented leaving all to answer
 “ his holy requirings, but humbly thank him,
 “ that he enabled me so to do; and, were
 “ crowns and diadems laid at my feet, I would
 “ not give his approbation for them.

“ Before I conclude I would say, beware of
 “ Esau's crime; it was when his soul was
 “ ready to faint, he despised his birthright;
 “ when he had been eagerly pursuing some-
 “ thing he delighted in, he came to this un-
 “ wise conclusion, “ Behold I am at the point
 “ to die, and what profit shall this birthright
 “ do me?” He wanted patience, and solid re-
 “ flection, and afterwards had bitterly to re-
 “ pent when too late. Had he not resigned
 “ it none could have taken it from him,
 “ neither can all the powers of darkness from

“ thee, if thou resolve to keep it ; this must
 “ be done, by cleaving to the Lord with all
 “ thy heart, with all thy soul, and all thy
 “ strength, which that thou mayest be ena-
 “ bled to do is my fervent prayer.

“ As I quietly rode along, the Lord was
 “ pleased in mercy, to break in upon my
 “ mind, by his living presence and power,
 “ and it became the language of my soul,
 “ Speak, Lord, and thy servant will hear.”
 “ After which many things were divinely
 “ opened to me, wherein I greatly rejoiced,
 “ and was thankful to the Lord my God, I
 “ then found a sudden, but gentle rebuke,
 “ and heard as it were a voice, that said in
 “ the secret of my soul, “ the dispensations
 “ thou most delightest in, are least pleasing to
 “ me, and not so beneficial to thy soul, as
 “ that pure poverty of spirit, brokenness and
 “ contrition of heart, which brings into hu-
 “ mility of mind, and the reason why this is
 “ so little desired, and so unpleasant to the
 “ creature is, that it can have no part there-
 “ in, but is wholly excluded and set at
 “ nought ; can discover no beauty or excel-
 “ lency in it ; and for this cause it is, that I
 “ will in no wise despise the offering of a
 “ broken and contrite spirit, as it is most pure
 “ and without mixture of the creature. For,

“whether there be prophecies, divine open-
 “ings or revelation, consolations, joying or
 “rejoicing in the holy Ghost, gifts of healing
 “or tongue of utterance, in all these self can
 “rejoice, and have a share, being obvious to
 “it, and bringing it honour. “Then said
 “I,” Lord dispense to me what is most pleas-
 “ing to thee, and best for my soul, so long
 “as my weak faith and patience can endure,
 “and when I am ready to faint, give me a
 “little of the wine, well refined on the lees,
 “that my soul may rejoice in thee, the God
 “of my salvation.”

From London she wrote to a friend after this manner.

“There are many hindering things, to ob-
 “struct us in our journey; enemies within
 “and enemies without, with the general luke-
 “warmness, and indifferency about religion,
 “that prevails among the professors of chris-
 “tianity, of all sects and denominations,
 “so far as I see; their example, instead of
 “inciting to zeal, for the cause of God, and
 “the pursuit of virtue and piety, their dead-
 “ness, dryness, carnality and insensibility, are
 “in great danger of leavening into the same
 “spirit. I find occasion, for a strict and con-
 “stant watch, with fervent prayer to the God

“ of my life, for help, strength and deliver-
 “ ance from the flesh, the world and satan,
 “ which war against my soul. And I bless his
 “ great and glorious name, in that he still con-
 “ tinues, by the inshining of his divine light,
 “ to keep me sensible of my weakness, frailty
 “ and manifold infirmities; and the need I
 “ have of looking steadily to my holy head,
 “ and of the help of my fellow members, in the
 “ mystical body. I have often desired, when
 “ scarce able to pray, or breath for myself,
 “ that he might be pleased, to hear, and have
 “ regard, to their good desires, for my prefer-
 “ vation, and I think I have often witnessed
 “ the benefit of the help of their spirits. I
 “ have been through the north, south, east
 “ and west of this nation, at the meetings
 “ generally, great and small; there now re-
 “ main several of the mid-land counties,
 “ which I believe will take me up most of
 “ this summer; and then I hope to see my
 “ native land in peace. which will be matter
 “ of comfort to me, for a large share of suf-
 “ fering has fallen to my lot, in this land:
 “ but none of those things move me, neither
 “ count I my life dear, in comparison, that I
 “ win Christ, the hope of glory: yea, I have
 “ rejoiced to be found worthy to suffer for his
 “ sake, knowing it is such that shall reign
 “ with him. Surely of all perils by sea and

“land, there are none so hard to bear, as
 “that of false brethren, which I have not
 “been exempt from: but through all, am
 “preserved in peace of mind, and restor-
 “ed to a far better state of bodily health, than
 “I once expected; for which great blessings,
 “with all other unmerited favours, I humbly
 “desire to be made and kept truly thankful.”

The following was written to two friends in the ministry.

“Many things have occurred, to hinder
 “my writing to you sooner, not that I have
 “any thing material to communicate, except
 “what concerns my own particular, which I
 “hope you are not altogether strangers to;
 “if I may boldly lay claim to a part in the
 “mystical body, whereof Christ is the head;
 “members of which, I fully believe you are,
 “and doubtless have had a feeling in spirit of
 “a weak member suffering, tho’ far remote in
 “body, yet present in him that is omnipre-
 “sent. For I may truly say of late, it has
 “been a time of deep trial, to my poor soul,
 “it’s beloved having withdrawn as behind
 “the curtain; and not only so, but suffered
 “the accuser of the brethren, to cast some of
 “his most fiery darts at me; and roar upon
 “me like a lion; yet was the Lord’s good

" spirit lifted up as a standard in the most need-
 " ful time. I humbly hope, it was for the re-
 " fining of my faith and fitting for further
 " service, because we can never so effectually,
 " or certainly speak of the wiles of satan, and
 " God's deliverance from them as when we
 " have seen them in ourselves. If I know my
 " own heart, I am truly willing, to be empti-
 " ed as from vessel to vessel, that so, I may
 " have no lees or dregs to settle on. I do not
 " complain of the Lord's dealings with me,
 " but rejoice that I am counted worthy, in
 " some measure to suffer, and desire I may be
 " humbly thankful, that he is using means,
 " such as comport with his infinite wisdom,
 " for my preservation from the epidemical dis-
 " orders which abound in the visible churches,
 " professing godliness. I travelled a week in
 " the county of Suffolk in silence, was at six
 " appointed meetings, and had not strength to
 " open my mouth in any of them; a path I
 " am ready to think, more will be called in-
 " to, if rightly subject to the divine will, for
 " the church in many places groans under a
 " dead lifeless ministry."

She wrote the following letter to a friend
 in the ministry, who was instrumental in the
 Lord's hands, to impart such help and coun-
 sel, as had a tendency to awaken her, when

in the sleep of carnal ease and forgetfulness.

“ Such a jealousy as possessed the mind of
 “ the eminent apostle, concerning the be-
 “ lievers in his day, hath laid hold of me
 “ concerning thee ; which was lest he that
 “ beguiled Eve, should beguile thee, from the
 “ simplicity that is in the truth. As I was
 “ this day in my solitary retirement, it was
 “ brought into my thoughts, to write thee a
 “ few lines, and I reasoned thus with myself.
 “ What shall I, who am a poor weak child,
 “ say to one who was in Christ before me, and
 “ instrumental in the great hand, to beget me
 “ in the truth ; I likewise remembered, the
 “ apostle travailed in birth for his little child-
 “ ren, made mention of them day and night
 “ in his prayers, wrote them excellent epistles,
 “ and especially to his son Timothy, who
 “ was engaged in the weighty work of the
 “ ministry. What excellent fatherly instruc-
 “ tion does he give him, but none from the
 “ son to the father. Where is thine to me,
 “ in this the day of my great trial and exer-
 “ cise ? Ah ! where is that which should
 “ come upon thee daily, the care of all the
 “ churches, or at least the heritages of thy
 “ God ? I wish no other care may have in-

"truded itself, in the room thereof, which
 "may have caused thee to fall asleep, in this
 "lukewarm backsliding, degenerate age. Be
 "aroused, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
 "thy soul's and the churches. Consider
 "what thou art doing, with these excellent
 "talents, which the great Lord has commit-
 "ted to thy trust. If thou should cease to
 "use them, to the honour of his name, those
 "who are as the stones of the street, will cry
 "out against thee, and I, if I keep my place,
 "will be a witness, to the sufficiency of that
 "gift, thou hast received. Do not again be-
 "come a slave to the world. Consider the
 "dignity of thy high and holy calling,
 "which is no less than that of a king's son,
 "to be an heir with God, and coheir with
 "Christ. Suffer not a sensual, worldly tinc-
 "ture, to pervert thy taste, from that foun-
 "tain of life, which thy soul had once so
 "quick a relish for, and thirsted after, even
 "as the hunted hart does after the water
 "brooks. Bear with my freedom and jeal-
 "ousy, which proceeds from the universal
 "love of God, that wishes well to all. I
 "would not have thee think, I write from
 "prejudice of mind, (thou knows there is no
 "cause for that) nor yet from information.
 "No, I never heard one word against thee
 "since I left you. I should be pleased to

" hear from thee, how it fares with thee,
 " for I long to hear of thy prosperity in the
 " truth, which would be a great comfort to
 " my poor soul, that oft goes mourning
 " as between the porch and the altar, for the
 " desolation of spiritual Jerusalem. Let us
 " so run as not uncertainly; so fight, not
 " as beating the air; but keep under the bo-
 " dy of sin and death, as well as the mortal
 " body, bringing all into pure subjection,
 " and obedience to the holy cross of Christ."

The following letter was to a relation.

" The one thing needful is only worth our
 " care, and constant pursuit, and surely there
 " are many impediments, and hinderances in
 " this dangerous deluding world, that are of-
 " ten ready to turn us out of that narrow
 " path, which leads to life: This has my soul
 " experienced, by being drawn aside through
 " unwatchfulness, and the prevalence of
 " temptations, and I have found it hard work
 " to return into the right path. I have many
 " times thought, a soul rightly influenced,
 " and affected with the love of God, is like
 " the needle touched with the load-stone, that
 " which ever way it be turned, rests not, nor
 " settles, 'till it comes to it's true centre, that

"is, while it retains the virtue of the load-
 "stone. Thus it is with the soul, that has
 "been quickened and renewed, by that effi-
 "cacious power, which has been extended, to
 "draw our souls from earth to heaven; for
 "certain it is, they have a natural tendency,
 "to sink into the earth, or earthly enjoy-
 "ments, but unless we renewedly witness the
 "visitations of that warming, heart melting
 "love of God, which keeps the soul alive to
 "him, and brings into that holy fellowship,
 "which is with the Father, and his son Christ
 "Jesus, by livingly feeling him to be in us,
 "and we in him, all religion is but dead
 "form and empty shew; as the branch can-
 "not bring forth fruit of itself, except it
 "abide in the vine, no more can we, except
 "we abide in him, and draw sap and nourish-
 "ment, from the pure root, bring forth fruit
 "acceptable in His sight, who looks at the
 "purity and sincerity of every heart and soul.
 "He sees nothing in us, pure, amiable or
 "lovely, but as his own work of grace, is
 "suffered to be carried on, that so Christ
 "may be made of God to us, wisdom,
 "righteousness, sanctification and redemp-
 "tion; and to do all in our power, to facili-
 "tate and help forward, this great and glo-
 "rious work, is the important business of our
 "lives.

The following letter was written to a friend in the ministry.

“ Since we parted thou hast been so much
“ in my thoughts, with strong desires for thy
“ preservation and growth in the ever blessed
“ truth, that I could not avoid saluting thee
“ by a few lines, in that love which seeks the
“ peace and welfare of Zion, with the en-
“ largement of her borders, which a remnant
“ are at times deeply concerned for. And
“ ah ! faith my soul, may no other concern
“ whatsoever, erase the remembrance of it
“ from our minds, so as to hinder us from
“ preferring it before our chiefest joy. This
“ is what will make for our peace here, and
“ eternal salvation hereafter, which it is our
“ business and interest to pursue, with the
“ utmost vigilance our frail nature is capable
“ of, seeing our adversary goes about like a
“ roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour;
“ and not only so, but as a subtle serpent,
“ working in a mystery of darkness, by which
“ he has drawn down to the earth, many
“ bright stars, causing them to contend for
“ the glory, honour and friendship of this
“ wicked world, instead of the precious faith
“ delivered to the saints, which powerfully
“ works by love, to the purifying of the soul,

" and making them pure and holy, as he that
 " hath called them is holy. Oh ! may my
 " soul fear always, lest I, or any of my dear
 " brethren and sisters in the truth, should fall
 " short of an admittance in the great and
 " notable day that draws near apace. When
 " I consider the very few bright shining ex-
 " amples that this age affords, who have dis-
 " interestedly devoted themselves to the ser-
 " vice of truth, and been kept unspotted of
 " the world, having on the white linen which
 " is the righteousness of saints ; my fears are
 " augmented, and my cries to the God of my
 " life increased, not only for my own preser-
 " vation, but that of his heritage in general.
 " In a peculiar manner, am I concerned for
 " those whom he hath called to the weighty
 " work of the ministry, that the eyes of our
 " souls may be kept so single to the honour of
 " God, as that we may minister suitably,
 " from the divine spirit, to the states and con-
 " ditions of the people, without partiality, or
 " respect to persons, for in this case (as saith
 " the apostle) if we have respect for persons,
 " we commit sin. In order to avoid this hei-
 " nous, dangerous crime, we had need to take
 " notice of the wise caution frequently men-
 " tioned in the writings of our worthy elders
 " and faithful ministers, in the morning of
 " this latter day ; not to be taken by the af-

“ fectionate part with any, left it ſhould pre-
 “ vent ſeeing rightly the ſituation of the low-
 “ ly ſeed of immortal life, and hinder miniſ-
 “ tering ſuitably to it, but miniſter life and
 “ ſtrength to that which ſhould be ſlain, fa-
 “ miſhed and brought to the death of the croſs.
 “ Oh ! may we fulfil our miniſtry ſo as to be
 “ pure from the blood of all men, in the tre-
 “ mendous day of account, ſtudying to ſhew
 “ ourſelves approved unto God, as labourers
 “ that need not be aſhamed, rightly dividing
 “ the word of truth.”

A letter written to two friends ſhe was
 nearly united to in ſpirit, runs thus.

“ I received your acceptable letter at Lon-
 “ don, and would have answered it ere now,
 “ but for want of leiſure, and ſometimes a fit
 “ frame of mind, being many times deeply
 “ bowed, and dipped into ſuffering with, and
 “ for my fellow members, and the ſeed of
 “ God, which lies loaded and oppreſſed in the
 “ minds of very many, even the profeſſors of
 “ the bleſſed truth, as a cart under ſheaves;
 “ this makes the true miniſters of Chriſt go
 “ heavily mourning on their way, often ſtrew-
 “ ing their tears in ſolitary places, for the ſlain
 “ of the daughter of this people; yea,
 “ for his ſake we are killed all the day

“ long, and accounted as sheep to the slaugh-
 “ ter ; and surely, of all perils we meet with
 “ by sea and land, there are none so danger-
 “ ous or hard to bear, as by false brethren :
 “ such are they who have lost the spirit and
 “ power of godliness, but retain the form,
 “ being cloathed with a pharisaical righteouf-
 “ ness, they as our Saviour said, sit in Moses’s
 “ seat ; what they bid, we may do, but their
 “ example is to be shunned : instead of
 “ coming up in their footsteps, we may
 “ justly cry, my soul come not into their
 “ secret ; unto their assembly mine honour,
 “ be not thou united, for their steps tend to
 “ the chambers of death, and their ways to
 “ the gates of destruction. Oh ! the great
 “ loss we that are young have, for want of
 “ steady elders, to go before us, who might
 “ take us by the hand with this amiable lan-
 “ guage, “ follow us, as we follow Christ.”
 “ As this is the lot of our day, we must strive
 “ to keep to our great Pilot, who is the
 “ alone safe conductor of his followers,
 “ through all the storms, difficulties and
 “ dangers that attend this pilgrimage and vale
 “ of tears. Tho’ he may sometimes suffer us
 “ to walk by faith and not by sight, yet, as
 “ our eye is steadily looking unto him, he
 “ will be found near at hand to help and di-
 “ rect, whose holy life (while in that prepar-

" ed body,) remains to be, an unerring pat-
 " tern, he, in whom there was no sin, neither
 " was guile found in his mouth, who was a
 " man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
 " Alas ! how hard a lesson is this to our cor-
 " rupt nature; poor, frail, weak creatures !
 " ah ! what need we have of boundless mer-
 " cy, and the mediation of a tender compas-
 " sionate Saviour, an holy high priest, that
 " was tempted in all points, as we are,
 " and well knows how to succour all the
 " tempted ; whose care is cast upon him, the
 " government of whose hearts is upon his
 " shoulders; who have surrendered their wills
 " to his. These, and only these; are made
 " truly free, from the thralldom of sin and
 " death : know an overcoming themselves,
 " the world and the devil, the only conquest
 " worth our labour and constant pursuit.
 " May we ever keep so near, that holy, an-
 " imating seraph love, as that we may wit-
 " ness it, to fill us with a generous indifferen-
 " cy to earthly and transitory objects ; that so
 " we may in reality, count all things here, as
 " loss and dross; in comparison of that excel-
 " lent treasure, which we have in our earthen
 " vessels ; the efficacy of which has at times
 " given a disrelish to every thing that would
 " impede it's pure arising in the soul. It is

“ the constant care and work of our adver-
 “ ry, to strive to blind the eye of the mind,
 “ which can discern, the transcendent excel-
 “ lency of the eternal truth.”

She mentions, “ At the city of Cambridge,
 “ had a meeting with a few professors, the
 “ number about 5, in which place was greatly
 “ favoured in my mind with the living pre-
 “ sence of God, in whose light I saw, and
 “ was made to believe, that there would
 “ be a people raised up in that place who
 “ should stand for the honour of his name,
 “ and to be valiant for truth on earth. This
 “ I was led to declare to the few present, tho’
 “ at this time, a place noted for contrary
 “ fruits. At Burford had a large and precious
 “ evening meeting, tho’ in the early part it
 “ was a very suffering time, there being di-
 “ vers priests, justices of the peace, so called,
 “ and rude people in whom the prince of the
 “ air had dominion ; but the Lord whose
 “ power is above every power, manifested his
 “ own arm and made it bare, for the help of
 “ his depending children, who have none in
 “ heaven but him, nor in the whole earth in
 “ comparison of him. His testimony was set
 “ over the heads of transgressors, and evil spirits
 “ were made subject to his power, everlasting
 “ praises be given to his excellent name ! At

“ another place where I had a meeting, the
 “ professors of Truth had heard of my being
 “ silent at several meetings, and were afraid of
 “ the cross and reproach of men, so took me
 “ a back way to the meeting for fear, (as I
 “ apprehended) their neighbours that were
 “ not of our society should see us, and come
 “ there, yet Providence so ordered it, that a
 “ large number came to the afternoon meet-
 “ ing, to whom Truth was declared, in the
 “ wisdom and demonstration of the spirit of
 “ God, after which I had to speak closely to
 “ the professors.

“ In the latter part of this journey, I was
 “ seized with a violent intermitting fever,
 “ which illness detained me several weeks,
 “ and caused me to travel in great bodily
 “ weakness, yet the Lord was graciously
 “ pleased at times to strengthen me for the
 “ service he had called me to, beyond my
 “ own and others expectation. I waited near
 “ a month for a passage, which seemed tedi-
 “ ous to me, some of the time at a public
 “ house at Parkgate, destitute of friends or
 “ acquaintance, but dared not repine at the
 “ will of Providence. In this journey I rode
 “ about five thousand miles, and attended five
 “ hundred and twenty five meetings. I land-
 “ ed at Dublin the 9th month 1750, being

“ about about two years and nine months ab-
 “ sent ; had the company of my esteemed
 “ friend, Samuel Fothergill. We had a rough,
 “ but swift passage, and were in danger of
 “ driving upon the Welch coast, but the Lord
 “ was our preserver. My friends rejoiced to
 “ see me, as I did them, some were concerned
 “ at the state of my visibly impaired health.
 “ In this city I felt great weakness of body
 “ and mind, being stripped, emptied and tried
 “ as before the great Judge, by whom I was
 “ willing to be examined, and to bring my
 “ deeds to his divine light, where my own
 “ weakness and manifold infirmities, might be
 “ more fully manifested ; it was several days
 “ before I was able to go out to meetings.
 “ Tho’ my life was despaired of by several,
 “ when I repaired to my father’s cottage,
 “ where all the wants of nature were fully
 “ supplied, that which would gratify the lust
 “ of the eye, the lust of the flesh and pride
 “ of life, much excluded, I mended in
 “ my health faster than I expected, and con-
 “ trary to the opinion of divers, who were
 “ against my coming, fearing the journey
 “ would be too much for me, and the accom-
 “ modation not suitable to my weak condi-
 “ tion ; but I bless the name of my God, who
 “ never suffered me to want any good thing,
 “ since my first knowledge of him. I had

" great peace in coming to my aged father,
 " who much desired my company: invita-
 " tions I had to stations of great affluence;
 " but denied them, and found the Lord my
 " God deserts not the poor and mean of this
 " world, but visits them in their lonely situa-
 " tions and humble retirements before him.
 " This I am a witness of, for he was of-
 " ten with my spirit in this time of weak-
 " ness; speaking peace and comfort to my
 " soul; that could not live without him. One
 " day in particular, as I rode to meeting, be-
 " ing much better in health, his living word,
 " ran sweetly through my mind, thus, "For
 " this purpose have I raised thee up, to shew
 " forth in thee my power, of preservation
 " and mercy," which greatly rejoiced my
 " soul, and caused me to praise his excellent
 " name; (who is everlastingly worthy) for all
 " his mercies."

She kept pretty much at home during her
 weak state of health, and about this time,
 wrote to a friend.

" By the mercy of Providence, I am now
 " much recovered, ah! faith my soul, may
 " I answer the end for which I am continued
 " longer among dreams and shadows, mingl-
 " ed with deceit, ah! what soul that rightly

" knew its true centre, would desire to con-
 " tinue here longer than 'till it had perform-
 " ed the will of Him that sent it into life.
 " This is a state of infirmity and dependency,
 " environned by the most subtle, potent un-
 " wearied enemies, which loudly calls for the
 " greatest vigilance, fear, humility and watch-
 " fulness that our nature is capable of; let us
 " therefore, sink down in our minds, to the
 " lowly, humble seed of everlasting renown,
 " where the visions of life and light are seen,
 " and the voice of the great Oracle heard
 " distinct from every other sound, in the si-
 " lence of all flesh, freed from the noise of
 " archers where none can make us afraid."

In another letter she says.

" I often wonder why the Lord and his
 " people, should shew so much regard to a
 " poor and unworthy creature, who am
 " the least and last of his family, if meet to
 " be esteemed of that happy number. My
 " soul sinks low under the weight of obliga-
 " tions to him, to whom I can make no re-
 " turns, but of his own begetting, who mea-
 " sures not his mercies by our merit, for then
 " would they be a scanty portion; but they
 " are proportiond to his matchless love and
 " kindness."

The summer following she accompanied Catherine Payton, who came to this nation on a religious visit, finding a draft to join her to Munster and Ulster. She set forward on this journey in the 5th month 1751, and they joined as companions at Waterford. They had many meetings amongst those of other societies. They visited the towns people of Sligo in Conaught, and felt much satisfaction, she thought they were well worth visiting, and said there seemed much more openness to declare the truth amongst those of other societies, than amongst them that go under our name. After this journey, she staid most of the winter with her father.

To a friend she wrote as follows.

“ I salute thee in that love, which nearly
 “ united our spirits, at our first seeing each
 “ other; yea, before I beheld thee with my
 “ natural eyes, a prayer was begotten in my
 “ soul, that thou might be made an instru-
 “ ment of good to me, which petition, I
 “ have cause to believe, was heard and ac-
 “ cepted by the great I am. For thou wast
 “ dipped into a sense of my state, and sym-
 “ pathy with me, by which thou wast made
 “ the messenger of glad tidings and conso-

" lation to my distressed spirit, and resolutions
 " have been formed, (which I trust, by the
 " favour of heaven will be supported) to
 " practice greater degrees of mortification
 " and self denial than I have yet done ; for I
 " see great occasion for it. I write not this
 " to exalt the creature or flatter my friend,
 " but to magnify that grace, by which thou
 " art, what thou art ; and to contribute my
 " mite to the strenghtening of thy hands, in
 " the way of well doing, as I believe the
 " strongest sometimes have need of it ; but
 " perhaps, I only judge by myself, who am
 " at times ready to faint in my mind, from a
 " fear that I shall never be made a conqueror,
 " over those potent enemies which oppose my
 " happiness, I have compared my mortal spi-
 " rit, to a kind of immaterial fire, that is
 " continually catching at, or fastening on
 " something celestial or terrestrial, and which-
 " ever it centres in, it may justly be called an
 " inhabitant of ; as natural a tendency it has
 " to fix on earthly objects, that are continu-
 " ally assailing it, conveyed thereto by the
 " organs of my senses, as iron cast into the
 " water, has to sink ; which my soul is ready
 " to do, when I wait not carefully for the
 " renewing of that power, by which we are
 " translated from the kingdom of darkness,
 " to that of light. But so frequent and pain-

“ful are the operations, of the sword of the
 “spirit, when it comes to sever my soul from
 “the spirit of the world, and to divide asun-
 “der between the joints and the marrow,
 “that it makes me weary of this imbodyed
 “state of imperfection, wherein I am torn as
 “between two, heaven and earth, so that I
 “often long to be dissolved and to be with
 “Christ. Tho’ this desire seems to carry in
 “it something laudable, inasmuch as it shews
 “my union with the eternal excellency, to
 “be stronger than all the ties of nature, yet
 “I am ready to fear, that in part this longing
 “takes its rise from self love, which would
 “lead me to seek an exemption from pain
 “and trials, before I had filled up in my
 “body, that which is behind of the sufferings
 “of Christ, I hope it is excuseable, as our
 “holy pattern has set us the example;
 “when about to partake of sufferings he
 “prayed earnestly, that if it were pos-
 “sible, the cup might pass from him; but
 “came to this noble result, which all his
 “followers, that are so in reality, must be
 “brought to, *viz.* Not my will, but thine
 “be done.” What could be grievous that
 “he did not suffer. Rejoice O my soul then
 “in thy tribulations, and count it all joy,
 “when thou falls into divers temptations, for
 “the trial of thy faith in Christ.”

The following advice was communicated by letter, to a young man, then under the baptizing power of truth.

“ There is one caution that has dwelt for
 “ sometime on my spirit to give thee, in pure
 “ love and good will, that is, that thou may
 “ be particularly nice in the choice of thy
 “ friends, now in thy setting out in a new
 “ and spiritual life, which is a point of great
 “ wisdom, take special care of being too
 “ readily taken with strangers, and of giving
 “ thy sentiments in word or writing of per-
 “ sons or things, not well known. This
 “ thou wilt find, when duly considered, to be
 “ a hint of singular service. Wait for the
 “ freedom and direction of truth, before thou
 “ enters into converse, or familiarity with
 “ any, tho’ it may be on religious subjects, for
 “ there are many more talkers of the truth,
 “ than walkers in it. This thou wilt find (as
 “ I have done) to tend greatly, to the health
 “ and well being of thy precious soul; for
 “ there is a set of mortals, whose very breath
 “ diffuses poison, and infection to the mind,
 “ their throats are as an open sepulchre, the
 “ poison of asps is under their tongues, they
 “ flatter with their lips: I might enlarge on
 “ this subject, but a watch word is enough.”

She wrote to another of her friends, thus.

“ It is not forgetfulness of my near and
 “ dear friends, that makes me slow in my an-
 “ swers to them, nor yet, because I have not
 “ a singular pleasure in hearing from them ;
 “ their converse by letters or otherwise, is,
 “ next to the divine good in myself, the
 “ greatest satisfaction in this life ; but thou
 “ knowest, that even all of this kind, must
 “ be, through him, who is the source of
 “ all good, and can command the clouds,
 “ that they shall or shall not rain ; he can stop
 “ both the upper and the nether springs, and
 “ cause a famine in the land, and who shall
 “ say, what doest thou ? It is the Lord that
 “ worketh in and for his people, and who
 “ shall let or hinder him, from doing it his
 “ own way, and after the manner that he sees
 “ best ? He is about to try his people every
 “ way, even as he did Israel of old, by fa-
 “ mine, captivity and sore distresses, because
 “ of the hardness of their hearts, and stiffness
 “ of their necks, refusing to return to him,
 “ who had done such great things for them
 “ and their fathers. This is the case, my
 “ friend, of people in this our day, who are
 “ gone into captivity, and refuse to return, at
 “ the command of the Lord, who has long

“ waited, and loudly called, immediately and
 “ instrumentally, to them to return. And for
 “ this reason, a little remnant, who like Da-
 “ vid, prefer Jerusalem above the chiefest joy,
 “ have hung their harps as upon the willows,
 “ and dare not sing the songs of Sion, neither
 “ can they in a strange land, for such as de-
 “ sire it from them ; who are of the number
 “ of those that spoil them, and yet require of
 “ them a song, or mirth. May all do as Da-
 “ niel did, in their private chambers, set their
 “ faces towards Jerusalem, oftner than the
 “ morning, and not be afraid to suffer for the
 “ law of their God. It has been my lot,
 “ since my return from England, to be much
 “ shut up as to word and doctrine, and to sit
 “ in great emptiness and poverty of spirit,
 “ amongst a people big with expectation of
 “ words, and too much departed from the
 “ light and life of the pure word in them-
 “ selves. And of late since this expectation
 “ has been disappointed, and their hopes
 “ frustrated, the Lord has often made use of
 “ me in his hand, as a sharp threshing instru-
 “ ment, and put such words in my mouth for
 “ them, as they could hardly bear ; so that on
 “ all sides, the poor creature is greatly despised
 “ and rejected, by the high and lofty pro-
 “ fessors, and pharisaical righteous, who can
 “ speak their own words, and work their own

"works; and indeed I am well content so to
 "be, and expect no better treatment, than
 "our blessed Lord and his disciples, have met
 "with in all ages; we are not greater than
 "our Master, if they persecuted him they will
 "also persecute us. I only wish we may be
 "found building on the same foundation,
 "and then the gates of hell will not prevail
 "against us."

She writes thus to a person under religious
 impressions, whom she was made instrumental
 to help.

"Does it not behove me to study thy pre-
 "servation, as I am unavoidably led in the
 "wisdom of truth to do? It was for this end
 "that I was chosen of the Lord at this time
 "for thy friend, I see it clearly, and feel it
 "perfectly, thou art to tread the same danger-
 "ous steps that I have had to stumble over,
 "with this advantage, that she who has gone
 "the road before thee, is made willing to
 "lend thee her hand, and to point the snares
 "and traps that lie in the way. And now it's
 "in my heart to give thee a short account of
 "my own experience, in the work of reli-
 "gion. When my soul was first thereby
 "awakened to a life of righteousness; I saw
 "such beauty and excellency in the truth

“ and the followers of it, that I thought no
 “ temptation would ever prevail upon me to
 “ turn aside in the least degree from what I
 “ knew to be my duty and interest in the
 “ truth (not in the world, which I saw clear-
 “ ly lay in wickedness) and all my passions
 “ seemed so subjected and engrossed in admi-
 “ ration and contemplation of the one great
 “ and good object, and his wonderful works
 “ in me and the whole creation, that I seem-
 “ ed to have no life in, nor relish for any
 “ other employ. Nor could I hear with plea-
 “ sure any converse that did not favour more
 “ or less of the spirit of truth, and even such
 “ as did, I delighted more in the feeling sense
 “ of it in my own heart, than the hearing of it
 “ from any mortal. And to hear any
 “ speak of it, that were not in the life and
 “ power of it, was the greatest pain to my
 “ spirit that it could be tried with. All the
 “ wisdom of men, seemed foolishness to
 “ me, without this, and it is really so in the
 “ sight of God and all good men. Alas ! this
 “ state lasted not long ’till my trials came on
 “ apace, and all my fortitude was proved ;
 “ nor will I, or dare I, ascribe my preserva-
 “ tion to my own watchfulness, stability, pru-
 “ dence or wisdom ; no, it must be forever
 “ attributed to the watchful eye of the Shep-
 “ herd of Israel, who sleeps not by day nor

“ slumbers by night. The enemy of my
 “ happiness strove to draw me from the true
 “ light, and set me upon acting by imitation,
 “ rather than the sense and judgement of the
 “ truth in myself; and here self began to plead
 “ what need is there for me to be more mor-
 “ tified in this, or that particular, than others
 “ of my fellow labourers, that are greater
 “ ministers, and have seen farther into the
 “ liberty which truth allows of, they being
 “ persons of far greater abilities than I, and
 “ some other weak persons who make scruples
 “ of small matters? and what is there in this,
 “ that or the other trifle of dress or behavi-
 “ our? Thus did the enemy work as in a
 “ mystery, to deceive my poor proud heart,
 “ that liked well this doctrine of his, and
 “ would have reasoned the secret, gentle dic-
 “ tates of truth out of my mind; not con-
 “ sidering that the enemy was leading me to
 “ imitate the weaknesses of my fellow mortals,
 “ and overlook their virtues; thus did he
 “ strive in another shape and form to open
 “ that eye in me, which had been shut to all
 “ the glory of the world, in every kind and
 “ degree of it; all this and much more, did
 “ the implacable enemy of my peace whisper
 “ in the ear of my soul, and caused his agents
 “ to speak to my outward ear; yea, even some
 “ of the Lords servants, who were taken by the

" affectionate part, would have persuaded me
 " from the cross, as Peter would have done
 " his Lord, when he said, " far be those
 " things from thee," but what was his reply,
 " get thee behind me, satan, thou favourest
 " not the things that be of God, but these
 " that be of men." Nor is there any mortal,
 " that rightly and truly favours the things of
 " God, longer than they are under the im-
 " mediate influence of his own divine grace,
 " and that in a greater or smaller degree as
 " they partake of it; let us therefore cast this
 " part in all the disciples, behind our backs,
 " and look to him, with a single eye, that
 " was never overcome in battle. He it was,
 " who let me see, that no mortal could be a
 " perfect pattern to me, in all things; and
 " that he would lead me in a manner, differ-
 " ent from most others, both as to my gift and
 " conduct, and tho' the manner in which
 " truth led me, was often misconstrued, and
 " wrongfully censured, as the object of pride,
 " singularity, temper, &c. my God knew it
 " was in obedience to him, and refined love
 " and charity to my fellow mortals, which
 " would not, nor dare not, draw the hearts
 " of the people from their true King, as Ab-
 " salom did, who perished for the same; and
 " those innocent practices in converse and be-
 " haviour, which I saw used by others of my

"sex and condition, whom I preferred before
 "myself, were to me forbidden, tho' they
 "might be to them lawful, and for what I
 "know allowable; especially towards the
 "other sex, I found it my duty, to act with
 "the utmost caution; if I found no danger
 "on my side, yet saw it needful to consult the
 "good of those with whom I conversed: and
 "had I not been obedient in this particular,
 "I am sure I should not have been preserved
 "'till this time, to have been thy friend in the
 "truth, as I am this day. My own affections
 "and the affections of others, would long
 "since have stolen me out of his hands, who
 "has an absolute right to dispose of my body
 "and spirit, "which are his." Such was the
 "prevalency of the general love and esteem,
 "that I met with for a time, which naturally
 "drew my mind, and the prevalency of the
 "love of God, which powerfully attracted
 "my soul towards himself from all fading ob-
 "jects, that between these two powers, my
 "mind was, at times, in that position that Ab-
 "salom's body was, when he hung in a dying
 "condition in the boughs of a tree, as be-
 "tween heaven and earth, scarce knowing
 "which power would have me; but as there
 "was a faithful obedience to the voice of the
 "true shepherd, I found the power of Saul
 "grow weaker, and that of David stronger."

About this time she wrote thus to a friend.

"Tha' I am poor, low, distressed and af-
 "flicted, having more need to be ministered
 "unto, than to minister to any, yet as thou
 "hast repeatedly desired to hear from me
 "by word or writing, I now feel a secret draft
 "to let thee know a little how it fares with
 "me, tho' the source or cause of my sorrow
 "must forever be concealed from all mortals,
 "and penned within the narrow confines of
 "this troubled breast, save when admitted to
 "pour out its complaints in the bosom of my
 "never failing friend and blessed redeemer,
 "all other counsellors are denied; may he
 "condescend to direct my steps in righteous-
 "ness, and then all will be well. Let it suf-
 "fice to say that I have just been in silent and
 "solid retirement, considering my awful call-
 "ing, and comparing my life to that of the
 "captain of my salvation, who was made per-
 "fect thro' suffering, and shall I dare to say
 "my life has some faint resemblance to his?
 "yea surely, as well indeed it may who am
 "called to be his minister. He was a man of
 "sorrow and acquainted with grief. So am I
 "a woman of a sorrowful spirit, that have
 "moved my lips in prayer, when my tongue
 "could not set forth the anguish of my soul,

" pouring it forth in broken accents, sighs
 " and groans, not for riches, honour, name
 " or fame, nor yet a mortal earthly love, or
 " a first born son after the flesh; but, Oh!
 " for divine wisdom, heavenly instructions
 " and ability, to bring forth fruits of righte-
 " ousness to the praise and honour of him
 " who has called me to glory and virtue.
 " Was my Lord despised and rejected of men?
 " So am I. Hannah like, I have been misun-
 " derstood even by the high priest, but not
 " by the great one of our profession, who
 " knows and regards his own, gently whisper-
 " ing in the ears of their souls, " Fear not
 " worm, Jacob I am with thee, &c." My
 " Lord was betrayed: so have I been by a
 " professed disciple. He was left alone in ex-
 " treme agonies, none to aid him, or to make
 " his complaint to, but the Father alone. So
 " have I. Let me not longer dwell on this
 " copious subject, than I find the strength of
 " his love to comfort my mind, and then I
 " might for ever dwell on it, and find new
 " wonders in it. O the length, the breadth
 " and the unfathomable depth of it. I ob-
 " serve thy complaints of poverty, which was
 " no incitement in me to do the same, had
 " it not been my state, and I thought it might
 " not be discouraging to thee, to know that

"thou shares the same lot with thy brethren
 "and sisters. Seekest thou great things for
 "thyself? Seek them not, for the Lord has
 "said, that he would bring evil upon all flesh,
 "but if we have that promise which was
 "given to Barach, "thy life shall be given
 "thee for a prey wheresoever thou goest,"
 "may this be our happy experience to save
 "our spiritual lives, this seems to be the ulti-
 "mate of my wish, expectation or desire, in
 "this calamitous day and time we live in, as
 "to religion. The priests, the Lord's minis-
 "ters mourn, the virgin daughters of Sion
 "are in bitterness, saying with Barach, "the
 "Lord has added grief to my sorrow," Well
 "let me not dwell longer on this theme,
 "but hope for beauty for ashes, the oil of
 "joy for mourning and the garments of
 "praise for the spirit of heaviness, how does
 "this holy anchor keep my troubled soul
 "from foundering on the quicksands of de-
 "spair."

A concern, which at times for years, had
 rested on her mind, to pay a religious visit to
 the churches in America, appears about this
 time to have impressed her with additional
 weight, the baptisms she passed through, to fit
 her for this work, she thus describes.

“ The Lord was pleased to bring me exceed-
 “ ingly low, both in mind and body, the latter
 “ so much so, that my life was despaired of
 “ by myself and others; and such was my
 “ exercise of mind and pain of body, that
 “ life seemed a burden, yea, I was ready of-
 “ ten to wish my body dissolved, that I might
 “ be with Christ. Yet when death looked me
 “ in the face unaccompanied by that which
 “ alone can it render it supportable to human
 “ nature, *viz.* an incontestible evidence of
 “ eternal rest to my immortal spirit, it ap-
 “ peared to me a gloomy prospect, and the
 “ cause of its being so I believe was, that my
 “ time was not yet come.

“ For I knew not that I had willfully
 “ offended the divine Being, that should cause
 “ him to withdraw his life giving presence,
 “ and suffer my mind to be clothed with a
 “ thick cloud of darkness. During this time
 “ of trial and deep exercise of body and mind,
 “ the Lord my God was pleased to extend his
 “ mighty arm of power, and reduce my spi-
 “ rit to a calm, so as to make his holy voice
 “ intelligible to my weary distressed soul, and
 “ to inform me that he would raise me from
 “ that low and dark state, and cause me, in
 “ his love, to visit the churches in America
 “ the next year. And altho’ this seemed to

" clash with my temporal interest, as well as
 " natural inclination, there was at the same
 " time when I heard the call, an entire resign-
 " nation wrought in my mind, so that I could
 " say indeed and in truth, " Thy will be
 " done in all things," which was to me a
 " confirmation that the thing was of the
 " Lord, verifying that saying of David, when
 " addressing the Almighty, " In the day of
 " thy power, thy people shall be willing,"
 " and such was the prevalency of it,
 " that it removed those things which had
 " been like mountains in my way, and caus-
 " ed them to be cast into the sea of annihila-
 " tion.

" This journey had been before me, by
 " distant views, from a short time after my
 " receiving a gift in the ministry. There
 " were many difficulties seemingly insur-
 " mountable in my way, which the Lord in
 " his own time was pleased to remove; so
 " that I may say of a truth, I was brought
 " through the furnace of affliction to perform
 " this journey."

She corresponded with her friend Cath-
 erine Payton, who felt a like concern to visit
 the churches in America, and great was the
 sympathy they had with each other. She left

home the 22nd of the 3rd month 1753, attended the quarterly meeting at Edenderry, and went thence to Dublin, where she met with considerable trials by opposing spirits of which she says, she had a previous fight, and thus writes.

“ I felt the power of darkness at work so as
 “ grievously to oppress my spirit, but by de-
 “ grees it was cast down, and the pure light
 “ prevailed. The design of the enemy was
 “ to prevent my intended journey by raising
 “ contention, which blessed be the name of
 “ God, he was not able to do. I left Dublin
 “ in the 5th month, in love and unity with
 “ my friends, and good desires for my enemies,
 “ if any such I had, and landing at Liverpool,
 “ got safe to London. After attending the year-
 “ ly meeting at London, I went to the yearly
 “ meetings of Colchester, Bury, Wood-bridge
 “ and Norwich: all which were attended
 “ with a good degree of the life and power of
 “ truth, and an honest labour for the good of
 “ the people. Before my leaving Ireland, I
 “ had a fight of Charlestown, in South Caro-
 “ lina, being the port for me to land at,
 “ which continued until I returned to Lon-
 “ don, when I lost sight of it; which made
 “ me willingly conclude I might go with
 “ some friends I was nearly united to, for

“ Philadelphia, and went on board some ves-
 “ sels bound for that port, but could not see
 “ my way in any of them. On more deeply
 “ centring to the root of life, in humble re-
 “ signation to the divine will, I found it my
 “ duty to continue some weeks at London,
 “ and not being clear of that city was, I be-
 “ lieve, the cause of my not seeing my way
 “ clear to Charlestown, I therefore conclud-
 “ ed to stay the Lord’s time, and when I
 “ found my spirit clear, took my passage with
 “ my dear companion Catherine Payton for
 “ that port. Before my leaving London, I had
 “ a large and comfortable farewell meeting
 “ at the Peel, for which my soul, with many
 “ more, had renewed cause to bless and praise
 “ the name of the Lord; several friends ac-
 “ companied us from London to Portsmouth,
 “ where we took shipping and landed at
 “ Charlestown. We had a favourable passage
 “ save hard weather towards the latter part
 “ of the voyage; but by the infinite mer-
 “ cy of Almighty God, were preserved from
 “ any terror or amazement, and our health
 “ continued beyond expectation, save the
 “ sickness occasioned by the sea and heat.
 “ We had meetings on board every first day,
 “ when ability of body and the weather
 “ would permit, which the passengers and
 “ ship’s crew attended, to whom the way of

“ life and salvation was declared ; but many of
 “ their hearts being hardened through the de-
 “ ceitfulness of sin, the word had not that en-
 “ trance, which could have been desired.

“ In Charlestown the discipline was quite
 “ let fall, and I found it my duty to endeav-
 “ our to revive it. Herein I met with open
 “ opposition and evil treatment, especially
 “ from one of my own countrymen, who was
 “ of a libertine spirit, and had been under
 “ the censure of friends in his native land.
 “ But the Lord was pleased to manifest his
 “ spirit, so that he could not frustrate our en-
 “ deavours. In this province we met with
 “ many difficulties both of body and mind,
 “ the former by long journeys, in a very thin-
 “ ly inhabited country, through unbeaten
 “ paths in the woods, dangerous creeks and
 “ swamps, with wild and venemous creatures
 “ around us, and with such food and lodging
 “ as we had never been accustomed to ; yet
 “ the Lord our God was pleased to make it up
 “ to us by his comfortable presence and good
 “ spirit, and to afford us the blessing of health,
 “ at a time when the greatest part of the in-
 “ habitants, suffered deeply with fevers and
 “ agues. For which unmerited mercy, my
 “ soul at this time bows, in humble thankf-

" giving, and returns him the praise of his
 " works, who is everlastingly worthy.

The following is part of a letter written to her uncle.

" It has dwelt on my heart for some days,
 " to give thee a short history of a long travel,
 " and first may acquaint thee that through the
 " the matchless mercy of a never failing God,
 " to his poor depending children, we have
 " been preserved in a good degree of health,
 " at a time when most faces gathered paleness,
 " through indisposition of body. I do not re-
 " member that we have been in a house or
 " family since we left Charlestown, but one or
 " more were ill of a fever or ague, so that it
 " seems like an universal contagion which
 " has overspread the inhabitants of this quar-
 " ter. We came hither from Charlestown,
 " taking no meetings in the way, except in the
 " families where we lodged, the distance be-
 " ing 150 miles, through woods and swamps,
 " where our lives seemed in jeopardy every
 " hour, yet through mercy our minds were so
 " supported above fear, as to go on with a
 " good degree of cheerfulness of spirit, trust-
 " ing in that holy arm of power, which has
 " hitherto wrought deliverance for us. I have
 " sat down by a brook in the woods, eat my

“ Indian-corn-bread, and drank water out of
 “ a calabash, with more content and peace of
 “ mind than many who were served in plate,
 “ &c. and at night have slept contentedly in
 “ my riding clothes, on a bed hard enough to
 “ make my bones ach, and the house so open
 “ on every side as to admit plenty of light and
 “ air. I have compared my passage through
 “ these woods, to my pilgrimage through the
 “ world, and indeed in some things it bears a
 “ just resemblance; the path we rode through
 “ was exceeding narrow, and sometimes so
 “ closed as not to see a footstep before me,
 “ caught by boughs on one hand, and bushes
 “ on the other, obliged to stoop very low, lest
 “ my head should be hurt or eyes pulled out;
 “ this I compare to the entangling things of
 “ the present world, which are ready to catch
 “ the affections on every side, and blind the
 “ eyes of the soul; my clothes are a little
 “ ragged by these pulls, but through care not
 “ quite torn off. Oh! faith my soul, may
 “ it not be wholly stripped of the white robe
 “ which is the righteousness of saints; for
 “ surely I have never been in more danger
 “ than now; the sense of which leads me
 “ earnestly to desire, that I may have a place
 “ in the remembrance of those, whose prayers
 “ ascend with acceptance to the throne of
 “ grace. I have not given the foregoing ac-

" count of my bodily hardship, by way of
 " complaint or murmuring, no, when I con-
 " sider how much more, very many much
 " better than I have suffered for the cause
 " of religion, and especially the good Shep-
 " herd who laid down his life for his sheep,
 " every cause of complaint is removed, re-
 " membering that the disciple is not above
 " his master, nor the servant above his Lord.
 " Yea, it is cause of rejoicing to my soul,
 " when I can find my feet in the footsteps of
 " the tribulated flocks, who trod this narrow
 " path, and tried way to eternal blessedness.
 " In this way of life I am exempt from many
 " dangerous temptations, which ease and su-
 " pineness are inlets to. On my hard bed, I
 " am free from the fault of wasting too much
 " of my time in a state of death and inactivi-
 " ty. At my plain meals, I am freed from
 " many of the temptations and evils, which
 " attend high and voluptuous living; and am
 " often made to remember, that excellent
 " advice of a great apostle to his son in the
 " faith, " endure hardness, as a good soldier
 " of Jesus Christ." And surely such as are
 " sent out to war before the face of their ene-
 " mies, may expect it in an especial manner.
 " But what above all other considerations,
 " reconciles me to every dispensation of pro-
 " vidence, is, the sight and sense which truth

“ gives me, of my own unworthiness, of the
 “ least of all the mercies I receive, either spi-
 “ ritual or temporal ; for indeed I see myself
 “ to be so exceedingly weak, and capable of
 “ so little service, as not to merit the meanest
 “ food that is set before me, yet have never
 “ been suffered to doubt, but that I am in my
 “ place, in coming here.—I think very
 “ long to hear from my friends and family,
 “ having been of late a little tossed, especially
 “ in the night by dreams about my father’s
 “ family and some others, whether it be the
 “ work of the enemy to perplex my mind, or
 “ a foresight of the worst of trials (except the
 “ loss of the favour of heaven) I cannot tell :
 “ but when I am assisted to look beyond this
 “ transitory scene of uncertainty, I can wel-
 “ come tribulations, and rejoice in such adver-
 “ sities, as have the least tendency to draw my
 “ mind nearer unto God ; which I well know
 “ must be by being weaned and redeemed
 “ from earth and earthly satisfactions. Alas,
 “ while I carry about with me this frail taber-
 “ nacle, its affections and desires will bend to-
 “ wards its original dust, when from under
 “ the immediate influence of that holy power,
 “ which alone can redeem it from the thral-
 “ dom of sin and satan. What need then
 “ have I and all who have been made par-
 “ takers of the powers of the world to come,

“ humbly, diligently and chasteſy to wait for
 “ the enlightening and enlivening incomes
 “ thereof to our ſouls, that ſo we may go on
 “ to perfection.

“ I have hitherto paſſed over our exerciſes
 “ in Charleſtown. It ſeems like a city of refuge
 “ for the diſjointed members of our ſociety,
 “ where they may walk in the fight of their
 “ own eyes, and the imagination of their own
 “ hearts, without being accountable to any
 “ for their conduct, and yet be called by the
 “ name of Quaker, to take away their re-
 “ proach. We lodged at the houſe of one
 “ that had married out of the ſociety, which
 “ we went to with fear and reluctance, having
 “ firſt tried all means to avoid it. Here we
 “ were greatly ſtraitened, but I think we were
 “ providentially caſt there for his wife's ſake,
 “ who is under conviction, a tender heart-
 “ ed, good natured woman, and exceedingly
 “ kind to us, and he well eſteemed for a fair
 “ reputable trader. He received us with much
 “ civility and hoſpitality, which yet did not
 “ blind our eyes, or prevent our telling him
 “ the truth ; I have gone ſo far as to ac-
 “ quaint him, that I was aſhamed to walk
 “ the ſtreets with one under our name,
 “ who deviated ſo much from our principles
 “ as he did, which he always took well, and

“ would acknowledge his faults. We were
 “ often visited by those of other societies, and
 “ had much kindness shewed by them. We
 “ had freedom to make a few visits amongst
 “ them, and had service for our master in some
 “ of their families. We likewise paid a re-
 “ ligious visit to every family professing with
 “ us, in that place, and had very close work,
 “ but with the most authority of any service
 “ we have entered on; and by this and such
 “ like labour, I understand we have driven
 “ several from the meeting, who could not
 “ bear sound doctrine, tho’ ever so private.
 “ Whether there be any sound members add-
 “ ed, by our labour, must at present be left:
 “ however that be, I say, amen to these leaving
 “ the profession, whose lives and conduct are
 “ scandal to it, and I wish to be made more
 “ and more instrumental, in the hand of my
 “ God, for division in the society, between
 “ the precious and the vile; let me as a crea-
 “ ture suffer what I may, by evil report and
 “ false brethren, which I have had, and still
 “ expect a large share of, in the way my mas-
 “ ter leads me; for of a truth it was his spirit,
 “ if ever I knew it, and not my own, that led
 “ me to this close work. One appeared in
 “ open opposition, at a meeting appointed for
 “ conference, in order to take steps for reviv-
 “ ing the discipline amongst them; he attack-

“ ed me in particular, but I had then little
 “ to say to him, and what I did say, was in
 “ great mildness, he arose in a violent passion
 “ and left the room; since which we have
 “ seen no more of him at meeting or else-
 “ where.

M. P.”

Her account thus continues.

“ At Nuce in North Carolina, we had a large
 “ and comfortable meeting, in which I thought
 “ it might be truly said the Lord’s power
 “ was over all, and that even devilish spirits
 “ were made subject to that power, by which
 “ we were assisted to speak. In this province
 “ likewise, we met with abundant hardships
 “ and sufferings of body, as we were drawn
 “ in the love of God, to visit many of the
 “ back inhabitants, where I suppose, no Eu-
 “ ropean had ever been on the like errand,
 “ by lodging in the woods in cold frosty wea-
 “ ther, on damp ground with bad firing. I
 “ got a rheumatic pain in my jaws and head,
 “ by which I suffered much, and often lost
 “ my rest after hard travelling, yet thro’ it
 “ all, the Lord was pleased to support my spi-
 “ rit in a good degree of cheerfulness, without
 “ murmuring or repining, tho’ my weak con-
 “ stitution often deeply felt the effects of those

"bodily hardships, yet by the goodness and
 "healing virtue of the Lord, I was often made
 "to forget my bodily infirmities, and to see
 "and feel that His strength was made perfect
 "in weakness.

"Between Pedee and Newgarden, where is
 "a large tract of country, we rode two days
 "and an half, and lay two nights in the
 "woods, without being under the roof of a
 "house. In these parts I seemed to have a
 "hope that truth might yet spread, because
 "many of the people shewed a love and
 "esteem for friends, and a dislike to the
 "priests. We were often kindly entertained,
 "according to their ability, at the houses of
 "these not of our society, tho' sometimes at
 "our first entrance they would look strangely
 "at us, because they understood not the law-
 "fulness of women's preaching, having never
 "heard any, thus did we pass for a sign and
 "wonder, some would say, when invited to
 "meeting, that we were women who ran from
 "our own country, for some ill act, not be-
 "ing acquainted with the supernatural power
 "of love, which had influenced our hearts,
 "nor the rules and discipline of friends.
 "Thro' divine favour I have not heard of any
 "of them who went away dissatisfied, from
 "meeting; may the praise of all the Lord's

“ works, be rendered to himself, who alone
 “ is worthy. In the upper part of this pro-
 “ vince (North Carolina) there is a large body
 “ of professors, and I hope some valuable
 “ friends, but too many I fear, (yea, I think
 “ I sensibly felt,) are trusting in a profession,
 “ without a possession, of the living virtue of
 “ truth. We were at their quarterly meeting,
 “ which was large ; but the power of truth
 “ somewhat low, at least in me, who suffered
 “ much under a loose unsanctified spirit. My
 “ companion had the chief service in the pub-
 “ lic meetings, and was led I believe, to speak
 “ pretty much to the state of the society, my
 “ chief labour was in the meeting of ministers
 “ and elders, in which we endeavoured to
 “ strive for some regulation in the discipline,
 “ particularly that they might have their
 “ meetings for business select, and not set
 “ open for the people, which they were then
 “ in the practice of. The weighty part of
 “ friends joined us, and seemed to conclude
 “ they would strive for an amendment. I also
 “ proposed their holding a meeting for the
 “ elders to confer in, before the ministers
 “ joined them, in order to their hearing a
 “ more full and perfect account of the state
 “ of the ministry in each meeting, and to
 “ have them both held before the quarterly
 “ meeting. This was agreed to, and the

“ meeting ended in a feeling sense of divine
 “ love, which makes true unity and concord
 “ amongst brethren, for which my soul was
 “ thankful. I laboured with considerable
 “ openness at several of the particular meet-
 “ ings, before the quarterly meeting; my
 “ companion being gone on a visit, south-
 “ ward of these parts as far as Bath-town. In
 “ this journey she had the trial of having a
 “ woman friend, who accompanied her from
 “ Perquimans, removed by death, her remains
 “ were brought to her husband and children,
 “ in eleven days from the time she left home,
 “ being then well to all appearance. We at-
 “ tended at her funeral, which was on the
 “ whole solid and satisfactory, tho’ somewhat
 “ interrupted by one, who as he thought
 “ would preach the burial sermon. From
 “ thence we passed to Virginia, and found
 “ things in the south side exceedingly weak and
 “ low, the meetings very small, and in many
 “ places the discipline sadly let fall; friends
 “ were very kind and hospitable, but from
 “ the poor seasons we had in spirit, their hos-
 “ pitality sometimes lost it’s true relish, yet
 “ there is a seed in these parts, with whom my
 “ spirit had true unity. We spent near two
 “ months in this colony, in much inward suf-
 “ fering, and under some bodily hardships,
 “ their way of living differing from what we

" had been accustomed to. One thing which
 " friends here, as well as in North Carolina,
 " Maryland and some other parts of America,
 " were in the practice of, gave us consider-
 " able pain, and we apprehended was in part
 " the cause, of truth not prospering amongst
 " them, as otherwise it would, that is buying
 " and keeping of slaves, which we could not
 " reconcile with the golden rule of doing un-
 " to all men as we would they should do unto
 " us.

" At West-river Maryland, I was concern-
 " ed to write an epistle to the yearly meet-
 " ing to be held at Curles in Virginia, which
 " had been on my mind for some time, my
 " companion united therewith, and subscrib-
 " ed her name to said epistle, which was as
 " follows.

" To the living, solid remnant of friends,
 " at the yearly meeting to be held at Curles,
 " for the colony of Virginia, in the 6th mo.
 " 1754, and especially such as constitute the
 " select meeting.

" DEAR FRIENDS.

" In a good degree of that universal, un-
 " changeable, enlarging love, which drew us
 " from our native land, and near enjoyments,

“to make you a religious visit, do we at this
 “time tenderly salute you, and hereby in-
 “form you, (as we have done some of you
 “heretofore verbally) that our hearts have
 “been pained, on account of the state of the
 “Church in your colony. And tho’ we can-
 “not accuse ourselves, of withholding any
 “thing from you, either in public or private,
 “which was given us to deliver, we appre-
 “hend it our duty to stir up in your remem-
 “brance, some truths already known, and
 “hope weightly felt by some of you.

“First, we recommend to your solid con-
 “sideration, when solemnly assembled, the
 “exceeding low state of the ministry and dis-
 “cipline, in most, if not all the monthly
 “meetings in your colony. Sink down to the
 “pure gift of God in yourselves. Ask of
 “Him with a sincere desire to be informed,
 “Lord, what is the cause that we flee be-
 “fore our enemies, and are taken captive by
 “them? for thus we believe it is with some,
 “whether they are sensible of it or not, and
 “as this is the case, we hope and believe, the
 “Lord will let some of you see, and feel,
 “that the shortness has not been on his side,
 “and that he has not forsaken his people, but
 “they him; and will also give power to amend
 “your ways and your doings. For we can-

“ not, we dare not suppose (let our spirits be
 “ clothed with never so much christian chari-
 “ ty,) that all who have been called, and
 “ even initiated into the true church, have
 “ stood faithful, and kept a single eye to the
 “ glory of God, no, no, if that had been the
 “ case, what a bright shining people would
 “ you have been ere this day, yea, as a city
 “ set upon an hill, whose light would have
 “ diffused itself to those who were without,
 “ and have caused many to flock to our Zion,
 “ for rest and safety, as doves to the win-
 “ dows; and not as birds of prey, to tear and
 “ devour, as is now too much the case, many
 “ we fear coming in amongst you with un-
 “ sanctified spirits; *i. e.* to make a profession
 “ of the truth which is now easy without a
 “ possession or sure inheritance in it, in which
 “ increase of number, some have seemed to
 “ glory, when in truth they have but increas-
 “ ed ungodliness in the church, by adding
 “ chaff instead of the solid, weighty wheat,
 “ which alone will be gathered into the
 “ Lord’s garner; but the chaff of all kinds,
 “ will be burnt with unquenchable fire.
 “ Where then will these light, chaffy unsanc-
 “ tified professors appear, or what will they
 “ add to you, except it be an incumbrance
 “ and clog, to the small handful of solid
 “ friends amongst you, who we believ are

" too much oppressed and borne down;
 " yea, lie as hid and buried, under this light
 " windy spirit. Arise, we beseech you, in
 " the name and power of your God, and ex-
 " ert yourselves, in his pure wisdom and
 " strength, for his cause and truth on earth.
 " Victory is on the Lord's side, and will be
 " your's, if you faithfully follow him, in the
 " way of his requirings, not fearing the faces
 " of men, but strictly regarding the still,
 " small voice and gentle motions of the bless-
 " ed spirit of truth. As this is the case, one
 " shall chase a thousand of these light frothy
 " spirits, and two put ten thousand to flight,
 " tho' you may, yea, must be little and low
 " in your own eyes. And we earnestly desire,
 " that such as have been called to, and in
 " some measure qualified for the work of the
 " Lord, and through a desire of some kind or
 " other, of filthy lucre, of which there are
 " many, are become formal, blind and
 " unfaithful, may repent, and do their
 " first works, seeing from whence they are
 " fallen, lest the Lord come to them quickly;
 " and remove such candlestick out of its
 " place, whose candles are already put out
 " by the baneful breath of the spirit of this
 " world; with which they have universally
 " mingled, and in which they are held cap-
 " tive. Arise from this state, if possible, and

“ shake yourselves from the dust of the earth,
 “ with which some of you are laden, as with
 “ thick clay ; but if you are so benumbed,
 “ hardened and stupified, through the deceit-
 “ fulness of sin, that this cannot be, yet cease
 “ at least, to pervert the right way of the
 “ Lord, by meddling in things with which
 “ you have no business, that is, putting your-
 “ selves forth in the ministry or discipline,
 “ when Christ the true shepherd, has not put
 “ forth therein. Remember what befel him,
 “ who stretched forth a hand to the ark, even,
 “ when it tottered and seemed in danger of
 “ falling ; the same event will happen to the
 “ spiritual lives of all those, who continue
 “ for a series of time, to mock and deceive
 “ themselves and people with a sound of
 “ words without life or power, which how-
 “ ever sound in themselves and well connect-
 “ ed, are but as a dead letter, which kills in-
 “ stead of quickening the soul. Let this
 “ certain self-evident truth be weightily con-
 “ sidered by you, viz. that nothing but life
 “ and light, should move to act in the church
 “ of Christ ; not pity for the people, nor in-
 “ clination to gratify their longing desire after
 “ words, nor any other human passion or con-
 “ sideration, should move us thus to tempt the
 “ Lord, and take his holy name in vain, in
 such / “ the worst sense of the expression, for which

“ as do so, he has declared he will not hold
 “ them guiltless. And dear friends, we ap-
 “ prehend that a great part of the weakness
 “ and unfruitfulness, which appears in the
 “ ministry amongst you proceeds from a want
 “ of a right sound discipline, established and
 “ conducted, in the wisdom of truth, which
 “ discipline is certainly not only as a wall
 “ of defence, against the encroachments
 “ of many dangerous enemies, but as a hedge
 “ to shelter from the various baneful blasts,
 “ destructive to young and tender plants,
 “ which should be sheltered as well as water-
 “ ed, pruned and dug about, by wise judicious
 “ elders or fathers and mothers in the church,
 “ But alas ! how do the few of those who
 “ are on the right foundation, stand as alone,
 “ exposed to the darts of their enemies, and
 “ piercing blasts from every side, unpruned,
 “ unadvised in a great degree ; can such be
 “ expected to bring forth plentiful crops, of
 “ full ripe, well flavoured fruit ; nay, rather
 “ the savour of the wild grape is to be feared,
 “ because the trees are left in a great measure
 “ without cultivation. Now as the hedge is
 “ thus sadly taken away, the wall greatly
 “ broken down, we are sensible the repara-
 “ tion must be by gradual steps ; yea, by lay-
 “ ing a single stone at a time, and planting a

“ tender twig. And those who are engaged
 “ in this necessary work, will find as Nehe-
 “ miah did, before he went to repair the walls
 “ of Jerusalem, sadness of countenance, ere
 “ they can intreat the Almighty for liberty to
 “ engage in the work. Nothing short of a
 “ heart truly touched with love and zeal for
 “ the good of the church of Christ, can adopt
 “ this language, “ Here am I, send me,” or
 “ Qualify me and let me go.” May it be
 “ yours, Oh ! ye, beloved tender plants of
 “ the Lord’s right hand planting, and when
 “ it is, stifle it not, but go on in the strength
 “ of the Lord, not saying, “ Here am I, and
 “ I will go in the strength of my own spirit,
 “ will or wisdom.” No, we give our testi-
 “ mony for our Lord and master, that these
 “ forward unsavory spirits, will never profit
 “ the people, nor bring glory to God. But
 “ you who are of the former rank, tho’ you
 “ may meet with many discouragements as
 “ Nehemiah did, yet if ye trust in the Lord
 “ with all your hearts, and singly eye his light
 “ in yourselves, not conferring with flesh and
 “ blood, nor seeking your own honour, but
 “ the honour of him that sent you into life,
 “ it is our testimony to you, for encourage-
 “ ment, that the Lord will bless his work in
 “ your hands, and richly reward you for it,
 “ tho’ you may have a long and painful tra-

“ vail, and sometimes as in the night season,
 “ before you come at the right place for build-
 “ ing; and when you come there, you will
 “ find much rubbish to be removed.

“ This we apprehend must be the first work
 “ before our stone can be properly laid on the
 “ right foundation, *i. e.* to have all unsancti-
 “ fied spirits, both of your own and other soci-
 “ eties, excluded the privilege of sitting in your
 “ meetings for business; otherwise we believe
 “ it will be building with the rubbish, which
 “ will never stand to the honour of God and
 “ the good of his people.

“ Our minds are so sensibly affected with
 “ the pernicious tendency of that evil custom,
 “ of suffering your meetings for the discipline
 “ of the church to be thus mixed, that we
 “ cannot help advising (believing it to be
 “ the mind of truth) that you use your chris-
 “ tian endeavours for an alteration, by mak-
 “ ing a minute against this disorderly practice,
 “ and strongly recommending the putting of
 “ it in force in the several monthly meetings
 “ throughout the colony, for which you have
 “ authority from the universal practice of
 “ friends where the discipline is rightly con-
 “ ducted, as well as from the original institu-
 “ tion of such meetings.

“ And now having in a good degree eased
 “ our spirits of what seemed to rest upon
 “ them, on your account, we conclude in that
 “ love which seeks the preservation and good
 “ of the heritage of God, with saying, be sober,
 “ be vigilant and of one mind, and desiring
 “ the God of peace may be with you, in this
 “ your annual assembly, we remain your
 “ friends in the truth.

West-river in Maryland,
the 4th of the 5th mo.

M. P.

C. P.

1754.

“ At this meeting of friends at West-river,
 “ we were falsely accused of speaking from out-
 “ ward information, when in truth it was
 “ from the opening of the word of life,
 “ this we were frequently suspected of, and
 “ charged with, by unbelievers, who knew
 “ not the intelligence of the spirit, tho’ they
 “ made profession of it.

“ We passed through the western side of
 “ Maryland called Sassafras bay, and took
 “ meetings in our way; but after we entered
 “ Pennsylvania had no openness to appoint
 “ meetings in that province, the Jerseys or
 “ Long-island, except one, but passed on in
 “ a pretty direct line, falling in with some

" meetings as they came in course 'till we got
 " to Rhode Island, the day before the yearly
 " meeting which was held at Newport, it was
 " large and attended with a good degree of
 " divine power, peace and concord. At this
 " meeting we found our minds engaged to la-
 " bour for some regulation in the discipline,
 " which was sadly out of order, in particular
 " that unwise practice of having meetings
 " for that purpose, mixed with the world's
 " people, and such as were proper subjects to
 " have it exercised upon, which seemed to be
 " the first step necessary to be taken. We
 " prevailed so far as to have a minute
 " made against it, and sent to the several
 " quarterly and monthly meetings, as the
 " result of the yearly meeting, which gave
 " us an opportunity as we fell in with them,
 " to strengthen friends in having their meet-
 " ings select. It was remarkable that we fell
 " in with so many of them in the course of
 " our labour and service: I write this for my
 " own instruction and that of others, as an
 " incitement to follow the leading of truth
 " and the way it points out to us, tho' the
 " cause may not immediately appear and in-
 " deed on all accounts I have seen it best so
 " to do. One mark of providential care,
 " which occurred in this journey, is, I think,
 " worthy of remembrance, when at New-

“ York some friends of that city and others,
 “ seemed inclined that we should go by water
 “ to Newport, in a sloop that was to sail next
 “ day; accordingly we went to view the ves-
 “ sel, and found her very small and incon-
 “ venient, having no cabin that we could
 “ well sit, stand or lie in; they seemed to
 “ think we might make our passage in 24,
 “ or at most 48 hours; we sat down quietly
 “ in her, to feel if there was freedom in the
 “ truth for us to go, a practice I like to be
 “ found in on such occasions, in which time,
 “ and before I went it appeared to me, that
 “ if we sailed in her, we should meet with
 “ greater difficulties than if we went by land
 “ to South-hold, and thence to Newport by
 “ water. I told friends that I had more free-
 “ dom to go by land, and they readily agreed
 “ to it. The vessel sailed from New-York as
 “ intended, we went as proposed, and had
 “ some meetings to good satisfaction, amongst
 “ the Presbyterians at and near South-hold,
 “ and fell in with a small meeting of friends,
 “ in the way, having also some seasoning op-
 “ portunities among ourselves, wherein the
 “ divine presence was manifested to our
 “ mutual comfort. We waited some days
 “ at South-hold for a fair wind, went on
 “ board and landed the same evening, the
 “ sloop which it was intended we should go

“ in, arrived only the same day, being 8 days
“ on her passage.

“ At Philadelphia the 23rd. of the 5th mo.
“ I received the sorrowful tidings of the death
“ of my dear and tender father, who departed
“ this life in much peace and quietude of
“ spirit, on the 23rd of the 2nd month last,
“ according to the account I received from
“ those who were present; he having been
“ favoured with his understanding and sense
“ of his change. This was of a truth sore
“ and hard to bear, I have great cause to bless
“ and praise his great name, who supported
“ me beyond my expectation or desert, under
“ this trial, as well as prepared my mind for
“ it, by a foresight of it, both sleeping and
“ waking, I saw in a dream my father in the
“ agonies of death, and in the time of his
“ illness day after day, felt such a sympathy
“ of soul as is not easily expressed, and
“ after that such a stop in my mind, from
“ thinking of or writing to him, as convinced
“ me that he was gone, the account of which
“ I fully expected.

“ We attended a quarterly meeting at
“ Hampton in New England, where we had
“ to testify against an unruly separate spirit,
“ tho' we had not seen or heard of it out-

“wardly, as I declared to them; nothing to
 “convince us of it but the spirit of truth,
 “they would not believe, tho’ high pretenders
 “to revelation. They abundantly convinced
 “us before the quarterly meeting was over of
 “our being right, for such was their outrage
 “that they used the utmost of their power
 “to prevent us from speaking in the meeting,
 “to ease our minds, by noises both within and
 “without the house; but truth gave us the
 “victory and set our spirits over them.

“After we had spent some time in this
 “quarter, and visited friends generally, east-
 “ward of Boston, as far as North Yarmouth,
 “on my return I found my mind secretly
 “drawn towards a separate people, at Hamp-
 “ton in New England, but as it was a ser-
 “vice likely to be attended with more than
 “common difficulties, I waited to have a
 “more clear sign and stronger evidence of
 “my duty, which the Lord was pleased to
 “give me in his own time; he knew the sin-
 “cerity of my heart and that I had no will to
 “disobey him. We passed the place 14
 “miles, before I received such a satisfactory
 “evidence, as I had wished for, in which I be-
 “lieve there was wisdom, as some friends
 “might perhaps have judged me, as being too
 “forward on entering on a service of such

" weight and difficulty. At Newberry, where
 " were friends from several meetings, I found
 " my mind so strongly drawn, and with such
 " weight towards this people as rendered me
 " quite unfit for any other service, it seeming
 " impossible for me to think of any thing
 " else in that meeting, except laying my con-
 " cern before friends there, which I was fully
 " persuaded, was what truth pointed out to
 " me. Accordingly at the close of the meeting,
 " I requested the most solid, concerned friends
 " to stay, when I told them how it had been
 " with me; they readily agreed to my going,
 " and divers gave up to accompany us. My
 " companion at first seemed affrighted about
 " going, and wept considerably, I left her quite
 " at liberty to stay or go, and in the morn-
 " ing she found her way open and had good
 " service. They received us with much seem-
 " ing kindness, particularly one who appear-
 " ed to be like the head of them, and was the
 " person whom I chiefly wanted to see: He
 " spoke many fair words to us before the
 " meeting, and told us that he looked upon it
 " as a favour from the Lord, that we were
 " sent to them; but after meeting, when I
 " came to tell him my mind freely, and deli-
 " ver the message which I had to him, he
 " soon changed and treated me roughly; de-
 " claring that I would not find mercy with the

“ Lord, until I repented of my proceedings
 “ against him, and them, at the quarterly
 “ meeting at Hampton. We had a seasonable
 “ opportunity to ease our minds, in which
 “ our master was with us, by his spirit and
 “ power, and I was made sensible that there
 “ was in that place, a people sincere in their
 “ searches and endeavours after religion, which
 “ the Lord regarded, tho’ under many delu-
 “ sions and mistakes. In this quarter (New
 “ England) close and hard work fell to our
 “ lots, amongst those who called themselves
 “ of our society, which was difficult to be ac-
 “ complished, because many thought them-
 “ selves whole, while in reality they needed
 “ a physician, manifesting an unlawful fa-
 “ miliarity with the world. Unbounded cu-
 “ riosity in the people, caused meetings to be
 “ thronged, that in hot weather it was exceed-
 “ ing hard to sit them, and much more trying
 “ to speak in them; but he who searches the
 “ hearts of all, and knows their intentions,
 “ disappointed these wrong spirits, by closing
 “ our mouths in silence one meeting after
 “ another; which greatly displeased the peo-
 “ ple, and drew upon us great reproach, lies
 “ and slander, all which we were enabled to
 “ bear patiently and rejoice in for our Mas-
 “ ter’s sake. We were led to endeavour to
 “ separate those under our name from others,

“ and at times some of the ruling members
 “ from the rest, to whom we had very close
 “ things to offer, feeling that the declension
 “ which so glaringly appeared in the society,
 “ had reached many of their borders. This
 “ seemed a very hard task to get accomplished
 “ because of their being so connected in mar-
 “ riage, &c. and the discipline being so sadly
 “ let fall, they knew not who were, or who
 “ were not proper members.

“ In some places we had to visit particular
 “ families, before we could cast off our bur-
 “ dens, as in Boston ; where I was led to find
 “ out some hidden works of darkness, the
 “ workers whereof ought to be cut of from
 “ the name and society of friends, in order to
 “ clear it and them from the scandal they
 “ brought on it; one young man in particu-
 “ lar, with whom we had to treat on his be-
 “ ing likely to marry with one of another so-
 “ ciety. It arose in my heart while we talk-
 “ ed with him, that he was deeply tinctured
 “ with deism, a disbelief of the scriptures, the
 “ coming of Christ in the flesh, and his se-
 “ cond appearance by his spirit; I told him
 “ my opinion of him which he acknowledged
 “ to be true, and spoke in defence of it, I
 “ told him the ground whence his unbelief
 “ sprung, viz. leaning to his own understand-

"ing; and departing from the light, which
 "alone can convince of God and godliness.
 "I left some parts of this country not quite
 "clear in my spirit, but under a weight, and
 "particularly Newport, I was given up in
 "my mind to return to it, but could not then
 "find my way open, I was advised by a
 "friend to leave it for the present; I did so,
 "and travelled under great exercise of spirit
 "through Connecticut, but without condem-
 "nation. At Oblong I had a fight that my
 "dear companion C. P. and I were to sepa-
 "rate, for the works sake, I had been at
 "times much straitened in my service by pre-
 "ferring her and her gift, for I was greatly
 "afraid and jealous over my own heart, lest
 "self should have any part in our separation,
 "from a desire of appearing greater than with
 "a companion; another thing which appear-
 "ed to me with considerable weight, was her
 "youth, and the many dangers that might at-
 "tend if not rightly suited with a companion.
 "These and many other considerations,
 "would I believe have prevailed, had not
 "the Lord laid his hand upon me, in a re-
 "markable manner, on this wise. My mind
 "was stripped of ability for service, and deep-
 "ly bowed to the centre of all strength, for
 "instruction, in which state I had a desire
 "given me, to be at Philadelphia, and to go
 "thither pretty direct without appointing

“ many meetings ; accordingly I desired that
 “ not more than two meetings, which lay in
 “ the way, might be appointed, but my com-
 “ panion and some other friends, encouraged
 “ the appointing more. I became passive,
 “ tho’ I found my exercise for meetings in
 “ those parts, was at that time taken away :
 “ which afterwards more clearly appeared,
 “ having been silent in all, except one I found
 “ freedom to have appointed, neither was
 “ my companion capacitated for the service,
 “ in the last meeting which was at Longreach.
 “ on the Main.”

She appears by a very concise account kept
 of her gospel labours, to have been closely ex-
 exercised in visiting meetings mostly in the pro-
 vince of Pennsylvania from the 10th mo. 1754:
 to the spring of 1756. She and her companion
 having with the concurrence of friends sepa-
 rated for the works sake. Within which period,
 she wrote as follows to a friend.

Philadelphia, 13th of 12th mo. 1755.

“ Thy acceptable letter, perhaps might
 “ have been acknowledged sooner, had I not a
 “ hope or expectation of seeing thee ere now ;
 “ hope did I say ? alas ! I should have none,
 “ but doing and suffering the will of God ;
 “ all other seems forbidden, and are through
 “ divine favour, pretty much restrained. My
 “ stay being prolonged in this country, has

“ been altogether unexpected to myself, and
 “ I have been held in such uncertainty for
 “ some months past, as not to be able to give
 “ my friends any information respecting fu-
 “ ture movements. I have stood as a soldier
 “ waiting for the word of command, to
 “ march whithersoever my holy leader may
 “ be pleased to direct; and may say to the
 “ praise of his great name, that he is not an
 “ hard master, but good and bountiful every
 “ way, for tho’ I have, (as recited) been kept
 “ as a day servant in a kind of undetermined
 “ state in regard to our stay; yet may say of a
 “ truth, that I do not remember ever to have
 “ had such a degree of steady peace, and holy
 “ unmixed quietude of mind, so long toge-
 “ ther, amidst many close deep trials and ex-
 “ ercises in religious duties, some of such a
 “ a nature, as I had not been tried with be-
 “ fore, and which required the utmost forti-
 “ tude, wisdom and patience. There is here
 “ the old pharisaical spirit, which I have here-
 “ tofore had to war with, and it seems to love
 “ me no better than usual. I shall now pro-
 “ ceed to give thee a narrative of the manner
 “ of my stay, which to do, I must begin with
 “ an unlooked for prospect set before me the
 “ summer after our landing, and hath rarely,
 “ if ever, wholly disappeared. How it may
 “ be, I cannot at present foresee: but this I
 “ know, that it has proved as ballast to my

“ mind, with respect to going homewards
 “ this fall, as also a means to separate me and
 “ my dear companion, which I believe was
 “ in the wisdom of truth. It was presented
 “ before last fall, with a draft to this city, so
 “ that I was ready to conclude I must have
 “ gone before my visit to this continent was
 “ ended, I mean to one or more of the West
 “ India islands, but after waiting some
 “ weeks in this city, wrapped as in a thick
 “ cloud, as to any light which way I should
 “ turn, whether home or elsewhere; (for to
 “ appoint meetings any where on this conti-
 “ nent I dared not till the light went before
 “ me, having attended some that were for-
 “ wardly appointed without my directions,
 “ till I was become as a sign and wonder to
 “ myself and others) my way opened, to finish
 “ my journey on this continent separate from
 “ my former companion, which I was assisted
 “ to perform with some degree of satisfaction
 “ to myself, and, I hope some little edifica-
 “ tion to the churches. In the latter part of
 “ this journey, it pleased my good master, to
 “ bring me under the most severe baptism and
 “ crucifixion, that I ever knew in the course
 “ of my religious experience, partly on my
 “ own account, and on the account of some,
 “ to whom I had been made a minister and
 “ instrumental to help into the way of life and
 “ salvation, who, looking at the creature,

“more than the Creator, who is worthy for
 “ever, became entangled, as a lamb caught
 “in a thicket, it was then that I felt the
 “depth, and true meaning of that emphatic-
 “cal saying of the holy apostle, my little
 “children, for whom I travail in birth ’till
 “Christ be formed in you.” And Oh! the
 “pangs and throes, the sighs and groans,
 “which a mother in Israel has to pass thro’
 “and put up, it is something like the suffer-
 “ing, which the captain of our salvation
 “passed through, in bringing many sons and
 “daughters to glory; it is with the utmost
 “reverence and fear that I make the compa-
 “rison, between him and his ministers, who
 “are to fill up in their bodies that which
 “is behind of his sufferings. But I seemed
 “to myself, and was as one nailed to the
 “cross, day and night, for weeks together,
 “with this desire or prayer fixed in my heart;
 “Let me not come down from the cross, ’till
 “the glorious design be fully accomplished,
 “that so thy will may be done by me, in me
 “and upon me, in time and in eternity,” and
 “truly the baptism was not removed until
 “this became the happy situation of my
 “mind, that to live or die, to be in health or
 “sickness, in prosperity or adversity, in Eu-
 “rope or America, in France or Spain, to
 “pass through good or evil report, in the will
 “of God, seemed just the same to me. I

“ write not these things boastingly, but to
 “ the glory of God. Thou and others know
 “ what I am by nature, that in me, (that, is;
 “ in my flesh,) dwells no good thing. This
 “ was the necessary preparative for the fore-
 “ named state of peaceful serenity of con-
 “ science, in a situation to which nature is
 “ above all things most averse, to wit, daily
 “ dependance and uncertainty, being indebted
 “ or obligated to others for support, having
 “ nothing that it can call its own, save weak-
 “ ness and infirmity, and this is that glorious
 “ mystery, and seeming contradiction, which
 “ the holy apostle speaks of, in having no-
 “ thing, and yet possessing all things. In
 “ this situation of mind I entered this city,
 “ having looked round me every way, with
 “ resignation to turn as I might be drawn by
 “ the power of matchless love, and hoped
 “ from the looseness which I then felt from all
 “ parts of this continent, that I might be per-
 “ mitted to return home with my brother
 “ (who I had heard was in town, and likely
 “ to sail soon) even if my companion could
 “ not go with me: but it was with this pro-
 “ spect, that I might probably return to this
 “ country if life was spared, and I knew not
 “ how soon. On coming hither, found that
 “ my brother was gone, and my companion
 “ not clear of this continent, so concluded to

"to wait for her a few weeks, or if it might
 "be, months, she expressing uncommon con-
 "cern at the thoughts of being left behind.
 "During the time I waited for her, some
 "friends proposed to accompany me in visit-
 "ing part of the families of friends in this
 "city, a service which had divers times been
 "presented to my mind in the course of my
 "journey, yea, before I left London, and
 "when the proposal was made, I found a
 "perfect freedom to join with it, it being with
 "the concurrence of the monthly meeting,
 "little supposing I should be held to it in the
 "manner I have been ; but it is a service
 "which the Lord hath been pleased to bless
 "in a remarkable manner. I have been in
 "160 families, and attended six meet-
 "ings every week whilst in town, as
 "health permits, besides visiting the sick, and
 "afflicted, and taking some excursions to the
 "country. My companion when she came
 "to town, being sometimes poorly in
 "health, proceeded but slowly ; we now go
 "together, having tired most of our compa-
 "nions, besides a couple of men friends, who
 "go to shew us the doors, and be witness to
 "our labours ; there is nearly as many yet to
 "visit, as I have been with. Whether I shall
 "go this winter, or ever to any of the Islands
 "mentioned, is at present hidden from me ;

" but had not the prospect afresh opened after
 " I had been here some time, I think I dare
 " not have admitted the thoughts of staying
 " this winter; but have been blessed with see-
 " ing, yea, have been made instrumental to
 " help back some of the before mentioned
 " lambs to the fold, one, in particular in this
 " city who I hope may be made a serviceable
 " instrument.

" I have now given up expectation of see-
 " ing my native land before the spring; at
 " which time I hope to have the company of
 " our beloved friend Samuel Fothergill on
 " ship board. He is now in this city, also
 " John Churchman and divers other friends
 " on the affairs of the society. It is a difficult
 " time to friends in these parts, who are con-
 " cerned to keep up their christian testimony
 " against wars and bloodshed: and especially
 " to such as are concerned in state affairs. I
 " have had my health better than common in
 " this city, for which blessing with all others
 " that I am an unworthy partaker of, I desire
 " to be humbly thankful."

She wrote about this time as follows to a
 friend in Pennsylvania on the subject of pay-
 ing taxes for the support of war.

" Without the least design to lessen paren-
 " tal authority, or filial obedience, so far as

“ they are either lawful or expedient, I would
 “ remark to thee, that divers parents of this
 “ age have bent their thoughts and desires too
 “ much to earth, to have a clear distinct dis-
 “ cerning of the times and seasons in a spiri-
 “ tual sense, and the sacred purposes of him
 “ whose wisdom is unsearchable, and his ways
 “ past finding out, by all the penetration of
 “ finite understanding, uninfluenced by his
 “ own eternal light, and even then we see
 “ and know but in part whilst here, but some
 “ of us have believed and seen in the visions
 “ of light, that the day of gospel light which
 “ has dawn’d will rise higher and higher ;
 “ notwithstanding that some clouds may at
 “ times intercept its beauty and brightness, as
 “ hath been sorrowfully the case amongst us
 “ as a people who have been highly favoured.
 “ And tho’ I have not the least design to de-
 “ rogate from the real worth of those honour-
 “ able sons of the morning, who were made
 “ instrumental in a great degree to break down
 “ the partition wall, which carnal selfish man-
 “ had erected between the people and the sun-
 “ righteousness, I am not afraid to say, and *of*
 “ give it under my hand, that it was and is
 “ the design of God that his people in future
 “ ages should carry on the reformation even
 “ further than they did ; and notwithstanding
 “ that a night of apostacy has come over us,

“as a people (as day and night succeed each
 “other in their season and God keeps his co-
 “venant with both) I am of the judgment
 “that that day has begun to dawn, in which
 “the sun of righteousness will rise higher
 “and with greater lustre than heretofore, and
 “if those who are called of God to be the
 “sons of this morning, look back to the night,
 “and to them who have slept and been
 “drunken in the night, by sipping of the
 “golden cup of abomination, as even to the
 “latter day, they will frustrate the designs of
 “Providence respecting themselves, tho’ not
 “respecting his own work, for it is his sacred
 “determination to be glorious in heaven and
 “glorified on earth, tho’ those who would
 “be called his Israel be not gathered. And
 “I am of the faith that when the gospel has
 “been first preached to them, as it is meet it
 “should, that such as neglect to embrace it,
 “will be left, and the feet of the messengers
 “turned another way, even to the highways
 “and hedges with a power of compulsive love
 “which will prevail on the halt, the maimed
 “and the blind, to come to the marriage of the
 “King’s Son, and by coming they shall be made
 “strong, beautiful and lively, and not look
 “back to those things that are behind, but press
 “forward towards the mark, for the prize of the

“ high calling of God in Christ, following no
 “ men’s example further than they follow
 “ him, and what if I say in the faith which is
 “ given me, that God has designed to carry
 “ some of this generation in these parts of the
 “ world, higher and further in righteousness
 “ than their forefathers were carried, even
 “ such as were honourable in their day, and
 “ therefore let them take heed that they limit
 “ not the Holy One of Israel, nor circum-
 “ scribe the leadings of his blessed unerring
 “ Spirit; by looking too much at the example
 “ of others, for this has been a means of stop-
 “ ping the gradual progression of many glori-
 “ ous well begun reformations, instead of go-
 “ ing forward they have looked back, and
 “ even sunk below the standard of the first
 “ reformers, and such as will be the first hap-
 “ py instruments to labour for reformation in
 “ this degenerate age, must differ in their
 “ trials from the sons of the former morning,
 “ and will find them to be of a more severe
 “ and piercing kind; theirs were from the
 “ world, and such as they might justly expect
 “ from them (tho’ not exempt from false
 “ brethren) ours will chiefly arise from those
 “ under the same profession, clothed with the
 “ the disguised spirit of the world, and that
 “ among some, of the foremost rank, (so
 “ called) in society and what if I say (though

“ my natural eyes may not see it) that God
 “ will divide in Jacob, and scatter in Israel,
 “ before that reformation is brought in his
 “ church which he designs.

“ And now in regard to the matter proposed
 “ by thee, I shall answer briefly, that I am
 “ of the judgement that if thou standest single
 “ and upright in thy mind from all the false
 “ biases of nature and interest of things,
 “ stopping thine ear to fallacious reasonings
 “ thou will find it more safe to suffer with the
 “ people of God, than to enter on or under-
 “ take doubtful things.

M. P.

After her return from America she attended
 the national meeting in the 11th mo. 1756 and
 returned a lively account of her journey. In
 the 2nd. mo. following she laid her intentions
 of marriage with Samuel Neale before the
 monthly meeting of Mountmelick, to which
 she belonged, after which she found a con-
 cern to join in a visit to the families of friends
 throughout that monthly meeting. When she
 had performed this service she returned home,
 and on the 17th of 3rd. mo. 1757, was mar-
 ried to our afore said friend in the meeting of
 Mountrath. On the evening of that day in
 a religious opportunity she was led to describe

how the Almighty formed the great works of creation in six days, which having finished he appointed a Sabbath and sanctified it, and there were present who should in a short time cease from their labours, and enjoy the Sabbath in which they would have no work to do; she was clear and sweet in the delivery of it, and the usual seal of her ministry attended. Two days after she was seized with a violent pain in her stomach, and lay quiet and still, in an awful frame of mind, and would sometimes raise her voice in a melodious manner, thro' the efficacy and virtue of that divine power, which so often animated her to sound forth praises to the King of saints. And tho' she did not express herself in words, yet there was a language in the sound, which fully manifested, that she triumphed over death, hell and the grave, for she longed to be dissolved, intreating her Lord to give her a release, if it was consistent with his holy will.

About half an hour before her removal her pain being taken away, she said, " I praise thy name, O my God, for this favour." After which she quietly departed, like one falling into a sweet sleep. **7 AP 59**

THE END.

